

THURSDAY 17 APRIL 1997

WEATHER: Mainty warm and sunny

(45p) 40p

IN THE TABLOID

# **VALKILMER INTERVIEWED**

6 PAGES OF FILM





# John Major takes on the Tories

# Prime Minister's personal appeal on Europe

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

It was the defining moment of the 1997 general election campaign; the point at which the Prime Minister turned his back on Lubour, and took on the opponents with-in his own Government and party.

Openly defied by junior ministers who had broken ranks and all the rules of Whitehall discipline to oppose a European sin-gle currency. John Major was forced to take

But the rot cootinued apace last night, with yet another mioister, Eric Forth, coming out against the single currency. Instead of celebrating a further fall in

unemployment, as planned, the Conservative leader turned his daily press conference into a repeat of his long-standing appeal to keep the option open on a single currency.
To the delight of the Tory pro-Europeans.

Mr Major courageously stood his ground. But he left his party's vociferous Eurosceptics in despair that he had not snatched the opportunity to swing the election by grabbing for the votes of dichard opponents of anything to do with Brussels.

bening his vain appeal to the rebels. Mr Major said: "Everyone who's been out there in the country in this campaign knows where the heart and gut of this election lies. That issue, he said, was the question

of a federal Europe.

All the reports The Independent received from around the country yesterday suggested that Europe was oot at all the oumber ooe issue with the voters. The prime concerns were education, health and crime.

A former minister defeoding a safe Tory seat said that the only people raising Europe were older voters, in their 50s and 60s, who were essentially Euro-sceptic. That was an impressioo from a oumber of former





Hand of faith: John Major confronts his party faithful (Photographs: David Model/IPG. Main photograph: Russell Boyce)

ministers who had been canvassing. But there was no question about the target of Mr Major's appeal - his own party. Never had such a vital issue been "so woe-

fully misuoderstood". Mr Major said: "No one at this momeot." oo one whatever they say, whatever their predilections may be, wherever their instincts may lie, no one can be absolutely cer- ance for and against the currency could oot

tain in what way it would affect us, or what have been more even-handed. If it worked, the outcome will be, whether we joined the single currency, or whether we stayed

Yet the Conservative ministers and MPs who had come out against the single currency appeared certain enough.

Mr Major's own assessment of the hal-

the whole of Europe.

But he concluded by saying that until the negotiations had been finalised oo one could know which way the balance would lie. "Whether you agree with me or disagree

the single currency could provide rising liv-

ing standards across Europe. If it failed it

could bring "economic catastrophe across

with me; like me or loathe me, don't bind my hands when I am oegotiating on be-half of the British nation."

Mr Major said he was often urged by critics to rule the whole single currency issue in, or out, entirely. "It would be splendidly decisive, they say - so splendidly decisive you would send the British Prime Minis-

ter naked into that conference chamber with

#### THE INDEPENDENT election'97

Labour plays health card Rise in women candidates Election countdown, pages 9-13

Leading article, page 19 Letters, page 19 Julian Critchley on party cowardice, page 21

nothing to negotiate, with nothing to wring the best deal out of our partners.

But the immediate reaction from his own party gave few grounds for hope of unity. John Redwood, the most prominent dissident, said: "I am not going to change my position. I am a consistent man, I have thought it through. On principle I oppose the single currency economically, consti-tutionally and politically.

More damaging, Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the backbench 1922 committee, told BBC radio's World at One that he supported the two Ministers who had stepped out of line - Mr Horam and Mr Paice. "We are putting a marker down simply to say that we have very strong feelings and we don't want a single currency. We don't want to lose the pound," he said.

As for the two ministers, Mr Major told his press conference: "We have spoken to those two ministers overnight. They realise how unwise they were. They realise that they have to accept our oegotiate-and-decide policy. They realise that they are bound by

collective responsibility.

But the chairmao of Mr Horam's Orpington constituency Conservative association, Phil Winter, told the World at One: ... As far as Mr Horam is concerned we have always understood he has maintained the party line of wait and see, but he has expressed his opinion and has the full support of the association."

From the party's pro-European wing, one Minister said: "Mr Major's response was courageous, and it could prove a turning point in the party's internal battle. Certainly, he has surprised those of us who were heginoing to despair of when he was going to stand his ground."

Intruding on the Tories' grief, Tooy Blair said in Southampton: "We are witnessing the collapse of the Conservative Party under the weight of its own divisions."

An appeal from Tony Blair

if you support

Labour,

support

our

# Labour studies privatising Post Office

Michael Harrison

Labour is examining plans put forward by the Post Office to privatise the organisation if it wins the election in a move which could raise £2bn towards the "hlack hole" in the public uniform price. finances.

Two options are understood to be under consideration. One reconstituted as a 100 per cent is to sell 49 per cent of the Post Office, thus keeping it in public ownership, hut at the same time give it commercial freedom to raise money on the financial markets and enter joint ventures with private sector partners.

The secood more radical option is to sell a 51 per cent

QUICKLY

£3m fine for Morgan Deutsche Morgan Grenfell was vesterday ordered to pay more than £3m after the regulator Inno handed down the largest fine ever imposed under the Financial Services Act. A £2m fine for the mishandling of investors' funds by former star manager Peter Young was almost three times higher than the previous

Tobacco talks

America's two largest tobacco companies have opened secret talks with plaintives for a settlement that could entail a payon worth \$300bn in a bid to escape a legal nightmare. The move could have a favourable knock-on effect on legal action against UK tobacco

would eoable Labour to ring fence monopoly services such as briefed on the plans by John Office, including the introduc-the Royal Mail and guarantee a universal service to every address in the country at a

As a first step to privatisation, the Post Office could be government-owned company. This change of status would free it from Treasury spending rules, giving it the freedom to fight growing competition from overseas post offices and private mail firms such as DHL, TNT and Federal Express.

Labour's deputy leader John

stake in the Post Office but Prescott, a strong advocate of Post Office. retain a "golden share". This partnerships between the private and public sector, has been

"commercialisation" of the Post

 Labour are determined to deliver a solution where Michael Heseltine failed 9

Howells, the member of sale of 51 per cent. Labour's trade and industry team with responsibility for the Post Office, it would mark a

Roberts, chief executive of the tion of private capital, although Post Office. So too has Kim Mr Prescott may bauik at the If Labour does sell part of the

following confirmation that it will look at the sale of air traffic cootrol. It would also mean that Labour had succeeded where Michael Heseltine failed. Mr Heseltine was prevented from privatising the Post Office in 1995 after a backbench Tory

One source said: "They are determined to deliver a solution to the Post Office's oeeds where Michael Heseltioe failed."

Labour has confirmed it would consider the sale of been slated for privatisation.

further significant step in its have cautioned it against piece-conversion to privatisation meal sales arguing that meal sales arguing that Parcelforce should be kept intact and sold along with Royal Mail and the Counters network.

The Post Office made a profit of £422m in 1995-96 and in the curreot finaocial year is hudgeted to cootribute £330m to government finances through External Finance Limit. A 100 per ceot sale could raise

But a more attractive solution might be to give it commercial freedom and theo sell a half stake. This could raise Parcelforce, which has long £2bn instantly but give Labour a continuing stream of income

## campaign Make a donation of £20 today 0990 CALL NOW Please quote ref CL13

# Snake legs it straight out of Eden

**Charles Arthur** Science Editor

Michelangelo seems to have got it at least partly right, when in the Sistine Chapel he depicted the snake in the Garden of Eden as having arms. Except for one detail: the last

things snakes lost was their legs, according to scientists who reckon they have found a 97million-year-old missing link. If the details are confirmed of the fossilised skeleton, which

was found, appropriately enough, 20km north of Jerusalem, then it may answer tobacco one of evolutioo's great un-Page 22 solved mysteries: how did

lizards lose their limbs and become snakes?

The suggestion is that the most primitive ancestor of the snake, called Pachyrhachis problematicis, evolved during gaps in the evolutionary table.

The search for the origin

136 and 165 million years ago. It had a pelvis and tiny but well-formed hind limbs, which would fit with the fact that modern-day boa constrictors have traces of a pelvic girdle, and even have limited vestiges of back legs. Michael Caldwell, of Alber-

The appropriately-named Pachyrhachis problematicus was originally classed as a snake, and then as a lizard, when it was ta University. Edmootoo, discovered 20 years ago. and Michael Lee, of Sydney But the Canadian and Aus-University, reckon that Pachyrtralian fossil hunters, who report

scendants moved onto dry land. dence that Pachyrhachis prob-Because snake skeletons are lematicus is really the most delicate structures, they tend not primitive snake. It has a snakelike head, a long, slender body, no forelimbs but well-develto form clear fossils, leading to oped hind limbs. of snakes has proved to be a

They further claim that thorn in the side of vertebrate snakes are related to a group of paleontologists," commeoted Nicholas Fraser, of the Virginia lizards which include the present-day monitors, such as the Museum of Natural History. Komodo Dragon, from Asia. This group includes several

kinds of extloct sea-lizard, which may be the distant ancestors of snakes. Best known of these are the mosasaurs, giant sea monsters that died out at the same time as dinosaurs, hachis problematicus may have their work today in the science 65 million years ago.



from the Sistine Chapel

	ET
THE BROADSHE Business & City .	20.02
Business & City .	22-23
Comment	13-41
Crossword	30
Crossword	1/-17
I Foreign News	

Page 22



Please have your credit card to hand when you call. Yes, I want to help Labour win the General Election i enclose a donation of: CL13 .... £20 ☐ £30 £40 M 7 F I wish to pay by: Cheque/postal order made payable to: The Labour Party VISA 🗀 Access 🔲 Switch 🗀 Issue No. ... Please return to: The Labour Party FREEPOST LON 7778 London SE17 1YT.

# significant shorts

## Policeman jailed for death crash to keep his job

A policeman who was jailed after causing two deaths during a 100mph pursuit is to keep his job after being released from jail, a West Midlands police disciplinary hearing decided yesterday. PC Lezlie Collins, 43. was given a three-month prison sentence at Birmingham Crown Court in February after being convicted of causing the death by dangerous driving of his colleague PC Robert Dallow, 41, and innocent motorist Neil Homer, 20, of Oldbury, West Midlands. He was also banned from driving for two years.

Mr Homer's father Dennis said: "We are too upsel to speak about this at the moment. I will give my side of the story but we have been treated disgracefully for the past 15 months. I'm not prepared to say anything further at the moment."

#### Killer agrees to extradition

Triple killer Alan Reeve, arrested in the Irisb Republic this month after absconding from Broadmoor special hospital in 1981, yesterday agreed to return to Britain in accordance with an application for his extradition.

Reeve. 49, is expected to he flown to Britain within 48 hours. after signing consent to two extradition warrants in Dublin. He told Duhlin District Court he was agreeing to be extradited because he was confident he would be released from detention on his return. because of his "good behaviour over a long period of time".

#### Actors reject new pay offer

The actors' union Equity last night refused an improved pay offer yesterday to 35.000 actors aimed at averting a nationwide

The union said it had rejected the Theatrical Management
Association offer - covering the "vast majority" of 100 subsidised
regional British theatres, and raising actors hasic minimum salary
from £190 to £250 a week by April next year - hecause it excluded 24 theatres from the main pay increase and offered only £4 a week extra in subsistence payments. However, the two sides have agreed to meet for further talks on Monday.

## Robins all the rage in style stakes



The three-wheeled transport made famous by Del Boy in television's Only Fools and Horses has become the latest craze in Austria. Robin Reliant manufacturers have been flooded with orders since young executives in Vienna decided it was chic to he seen driving the SLX model. Workers at the factory's base in Tamworth, Staffordshire, are working "flat out" to keep up with the demand, and there is now a 2-week waiting list as staff

work on an order for 40 vehicles, worth £280,000.

## 'Wicked' prostitute jailed for life

A prostitute was sentenced to custody for life at the Old Bailey yesterday for murdering a wealthy hanker who tape-recorded his own horrific death.

Judge Henry Pownall QC told 20-year-old Samantha Enoch of Clapbam, south London: "In this court there have been some calculated, calculating and callous defendants, but few to louch you ... you are dangerous, devious and wicked." Enoch had claimed she had nothing to do with the death of Syrian-born Hahib Saliba, who was stabbed 26 times at his flat in London in June last year. Ronald Tamplin, 27, who was also accused of murder, was cleared.

#### Islanders in poison scare

A military bomb disposal team has been sent to the Outer Hehridean island of Barra to examine a canister washed up on the beach only days after a mystery illness struck eight people on the

Islanders are concerned there may be a link between the "flu the sickness and the 145,000 tons of germ warrare chem dumped in deep water off the Hebrides after the Second World War. Barra councillor, Captain Roddy Mackinnon last night appealed to the Ministry of Defence not to destroy the canister before analysing its contents. The MoD has been dismissive of suggestions that the dumped chemicals could be the cause of the illness, but there are suspicions on the island that the canister could be destroyed to eliminate any evidence. Stephen Goodwin

#### Academy award for Elton John

Rock star Elton John yesterday returned to his alma mater, the Royal Academy of Music in London, to be awarded honorary membership. The singer-songwriter, who studied at the junior academy from age 11 to 15, joined an "exclusive cluh" of "eminent musicians", whose 250 members include conductor Bernard Haitink and tenor Jose Carreras. Previous recipients of the award include Mendelssohn, Liszt and Richard Strauss. Leading article, page 19

## Church arsonists strike again

Another Catholic church in Northern Ireland has been damaged in a fire believed to have been started by arsonists. Firemen managed to restrict damage to the church at Annaclone, near Banbridge, County Down, to the vestry. Since the beginning of last year there have been 48 attacks on places of worship in Northern Ireland.

## THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

Austra Sch40	Niands FI5.00
8elgum8Fr80	traty L4,500
Cananes Pts300	Madeva Esc325
Cypnus C£1,20	
Dermon Div18	
Iтыћ Rcp 45р	
Parice Fr14	
GermanDa14.5	Sweden. Sw21
Greece Dr450	Surgariand . Str.J.00

LUCETTOUR .. LFED USA ..... \$100

INTERCRAS SURSCRIPTIONS Ar mail 13 weeks: Furnite £110.76; Zone 1 dilattie East, America, Altica and India) £184.08; Zone 2 (Far East and Australasia) £206.70. To order, please send cheque carable to Johnsons International Media Services uid to 43 Millhorbour, Landon E14 9TR or telephone 0171-538 8298. Credit cards velcome BACK ISSUES

Back essues of the Independent are available from Historic Newspapers, telephone 01988 840370.



Nicola Foulston: Strong views on commercial potential of motor racing (Photograph: Philip Meech).

# Businesswoman of the year kicks wall of testosterone

Clicquot Businesswoman of the Year confrontational. Nicola Foulston, chief executive of Brands Hatch, loves nothing better than a scrap with the blazer andcravat-wearing male motor racing establishment.

For instance, Ms Foulston, 29, believes her fellow.

racetrack owners are wrong to concentrate on the sport. They should be in it for the money, she says.
"I have very strong views on this. We should be making a profit. This is a serious business. We should

not concentrate on the sport as a priority."

Her jaundiced view of the sport and her unwillingness to pull puricities owe much to her background. Her involvement with Brands Hatch began when she was 11, when her father suddenly fell in love with motor racing and brought his elder daughter along to help polish the cars and run errands...

polish the cars and run errands.

John Foulston, the founder of Atlantic computers, built up a £40m fortune through computer-leasing and, in May 1986, bought Brands Hatch to satisfy his new.

A year later, while testing an open-topped Maclaren, he crashed and was killed. Rather than putting her off,

Ms Foulston, then 19, decided to drop out of her maths degree course and concentrate on turning Brands Hatch into a profit-making business.

As such, she has run into a wall of testosterone. "It's: clearly a very male dominated industry - in the pit lane and the paddock particularly. But there are a lot of woman working in the marketing and administration of the sport," she says.

Her life revolves around her business, and she is happy to remain single. She was briefly married to her elicopter instructor, Craig Sargeant, but they split up

in 1994 after less than a year. When she took over Brands Hatch it was "fairly run down", she says. Since then the headquarters and con-ference centre, named after her father, were built for £2.6m. New pits were built at a cost of £2.9m. A deal with BMW gave the Nigel Massell driving school 40, new saloons. Renegotiation of television coverage. meant the company stopped paying for coverage and instead received an income of \$100,000 a year. And with her company now making over £2n£a year in profit, she clearly sees herself as the winner.

John Willcock

Mark Morrison, the soul singer who brought us Moan and Groan and Horny was feeling slightly less energetic yesterday after he was told he faced a jail sentence for threatening a police officer with an

Soul star Mark

Morrison must

go to jail

electric stun gun.
Morrison, 24, who has had five
Top 10 hits including a number
one last summer, was convicted of the charges which related to an incident outside a 24-hour supermarket in west London last October as he returned home with friends at 4.30am, after an evening

spent nightclubbing.
Plain-clothes police officers initially believed he had been planning a robbery and moved to arrest him as he left the shop and walked towards his chauffeur-

driven Mercedes. Detective Constable John Cushion told the court Morrison turned to him, raising his right hand which was holding the stun gun.

"I feared he was going to fire the gun into my body and I hit him on the head with my radio," said the officer. "He was trying to use the gun on me but I struggled with him and prevented it."

Morrison admitted to Maryle-bone Magistrates Court in west London that he had possessed the illegal stun gun, which he bought in the US for his own protection. It can deliver a charge of 23,000



volts, causing "involuntary muscle contraction, pain, shock, a loss of balance and mental confusion".

The singer denied using threat-ening behaviour and said he feared for his life. He felt "Insulted" and "disrespected" after being accused of robbery.

Stipendiary magistrate David Kennett-Brown told the pop star: "These very serious offences can only be properly dealt with by way of a custodial sentence." Sentencing was adjourned until 14 May. Leaving court amid a posse of minders, a pair of celebrity sunglasses could not hide his tears.

Maybe Morrison's recent stage performances were tempting fate. They involved him brandishing handcuffs, backed by female dancers clad as mini-skirted po-**Matthew Brace** 

# Diplomatic role for Sidney Poitier

Hollywood star Sidney Poitier took on a new role yesterday, representing the Bahamas as ambassador to Japan. The 70-year-old Oscar-winning actor, who holds dual US and Bahamian nationality, took up the post in a ceremony presided over by Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace.

"It's exhilarating, it's a very satisfying feeling,\* he said, after formally presenting his credentials to the

Poitier, who has only visited Japan twice before and has no plans to live here, will carry out his duties while continuing to make movies around the world.

"There will be times when I will make films, there will be times when I will probably direct films." There will be no time when I'm not available to fulfil my responsibilities as an ambassador," he said. It's just as well Politier is not

700-island Caribbean nation has no embassy in Japan. He said it was important to him to help promote the country where he grew up and which was the

planning to live in Tokyo, since the

home of his parents and forefathers. "I was raised in the Bahamas. My roots are there. I am as famillar with that society and its people as I am with America and there is in the present government a need for me to be of some service," he

# briefing

# HEALTH

# Risk in home births for first-time mothers

First-time mothers planning a home birth are at high risk of ending up in hospital because of complications during labour, a study has found. The survey of 6,000 home births during 1994 found 15 per found. cent of women booked for delivery at home had to be transferred to

cent of women booked for delivery at home had to be transferred to hospital for delivery but among first-time mothers the proportion rose to 40 per cent. The chief reason was prolonged labour.

Geoffrey Chamberlain, Emeritus Professor of Obstetries at the University of London, who conducted the study, said that It per cent of first-time mothers asked for home births but many might be better off in hospital. Most wanter who want a home birth facility better off in hospital. "Most women who want a home birth feel it will be more satisfying and they will be more in control but they should realise that it may not end up that way. Jeremy Laurance

#### TRAVEL

## Airport is bottom of the pops

Frankfurt airport has been singled out as the worst tourist facility in central Europe, narrowly beating n Sound of Music Tour of Salzburg. The guide book publisher Lonely Planet asked the eight authors of its new Central Europe on a Shoestring for their highlights and lowlights of the region. The writers voted the Sound of Music Tour runner-up, not least for the antics of other participants: "Loutish rouths ekinning in the suppose bones chapting I now 16 soing or

runner-up, not least for the antics of other participants: "Loutish youths skipping in the summer house chanting 'I nm 16 going on 17', or manic Julie Andrews impersonators flouncing in the fields, screeching 'The hills are alive'."

In third place was the resort of Siofok on Lake Balaton in Hungary. Wine cellars in Vienna's popular suhnrb of Grinzing take a hit in fourth place. Lower down the order, the Winsaw branch of McDonald's and the Nowa Huta industrial complex put in appearances for Poland. Munich's Bierfest also rates a touristic health warning.

health warning.

The writers' votes on central Europe's highlights puts Prague in pole position, followed by the Alps, Budapest and Czech beer.

Central Europe on o Shoestring, £13.99, Lonely Planet. Simon Calder



#### **FOOD**

#### Marinated meat cuts cancer risk

Marinating chicken in olive oil, lemon and garlic has been suggested as a recipe for preventing cancer. Coating chicken pieces in the marinade before grilling are said to reduce the production of cancer-promoting chemicals in the meat.

Grilling or frying beef and chicken is known to convert harmless compounds in the muscle tissue into heterocyclic amines, which promote the formation of tumours. The researchers from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California wanted to test a theory that carcinogen production might be affected by preparation methods, they write in New Scientist.

They look medallions of chicken breast and marinated half in a mixture of olive oil, brown sugar, cider vinegar, lemon juice, gartic, sall and mustard. After being cooked for 20 minutes, the marinated meat contained only a tenth of the heterocyclic amines found in the unmarinated meat. But if the meat was overcooked for a further 20 minutes, another type of beterocyclic amine was 10 times more abundant in the marinated samples.

#### **ASTRONOMY**

## Gamma ray riddle solved

Astronomers reckon they have solved the mystery of "gamma ray hursters" – points in the sky which emit brief but incredibly powerful bursts of very short-wave radiation. Since the phenomenon was first observed, in 1973, theories about their origin have abounded - from neutron stars to the warp drives of alien space craft.

Writing in the science journal Nature today, a team at the University of Alabama, coordinating an international effort, said they had seen a point of light to match the source of gamma rays. Usually such bursts are so brief that by the time a telescope can be

trained on them, they have died away.

The team said the intense light, discovered 20 minutes after the initial gamma rays, could have come from an explosive collision between two neutron stars - the incredibly dense remnants of burnt-out stars - at the far end of the universe. If this is so, the

explosion would be the brightest in the universe, perhaps releasing as much energy in a few seconds as the sun does in a billion years. The telescopes showed a blur in the sky which lasted for n month before it faded out.

# Read

## LATE INDEPENDEN online every day on AOL

Call 0800 376 5376 for FREE software - quote "Independent"



#### **NEWSPAPERS** SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41\_2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

Steel doesn't grow on trees.

**社** Think Wood

The Timber Trade Federation, 26-27 Oxenden Street, Landon SH13 4EL http://www.ttf.co.uk

اعكذا من الاعل

# The New Romantics: Barbara Cartland gives way to a world of gay embraces

Arts News Editor

The love scene is tender, passionate - and all-male. For the first time the winner of a major award for romantic fiction has among its protagonists two homosexual lovers. Romantic fiction appears to have found a mixture of voices for the Nineties. One is likely to be homoerotic; another is likely to be feminist; exploration of the anxieties of juggling employment with marriage is commonplace.

The genre remains the largest single sector of the adult paperback fiction marker. But its subject-matter is no longer one that Barbara Cartland or Mills and Boon would easily recognise. Yesterday the £5,000 Romantic Novelist Of the Year Award was won by a university lecturer, Sue Gee. Her novel contains a staple of traditional romantic fiction, a virginal young woman pining after a rugged, handsome farmer. But from there it moves swiftly to fin-desiècle romance. The Hours Of The Night contains no love scene for the virginal poet heroine, but a passionate one between the man she de-

sires and his homosexual partner. Gee, who teaches writing and publishing at Middlesex University, plans to donate £1,000 of the £5,000 prize money to the English PEN Committee for Writers in Prison. She heat a shortlist that included Lisa Appignanesi, former deputy director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts. She has swapped putting on radical exhibitions and organising talks for the defence of Salman Rushdie for writing romance.

Yet their inclusion on a romantic fiction shortlist comes as a surprise to both of them. Perhaps that is a sign of growing pains within the Romantic Novelists' Association, which even as it gave the award, was halloting members about a change of name for its association. Or perhaps it is just a sign that romantic fictioo is being belatedly redefined.

Gee said yesterday: "I was fairly astonished to be told that this was romantic fiction. This is the least romantie book I have written. It's about a woman who falls in love with A Good Woman oo observing peoa homosexual man, and there's a strong homosexual relationship. It's about different aspects of love. It's ofteo there's sexuality and desire at nice to win, but I didn't see it as a romantic novel and I didn't even Every womao of my geocratioo is a know it had been submitted." Every womao of my geocratioo is a know it had been submitted."

Appignanesi, who used to teach European literature, based her book award in 1994, said theo: "The



Passion artists: In The Hours of the Night, Sue Gee (right) speaks with a very



ple in Paris. "I oever think of myself

as writing romantic fiction. But quite

the core of it, all those ICA words.

Lizzie Buchan, who woo the

Marketing millions The romantic market accounts for a large share of total book sales: fig-ures for 1996 show that the genre made more than £16 million for pubishers during the 12-month period, writes Becky Lloyd.

Seles on the general market for the first 12 weeks of this year total 43,000

opies, to a value of £188,645. However, this figure does not take into account supermarket sales, ble the amounts involved.

ending 12 April 1997: 1. Judith McNaught - Remember When (Pocket Books) 2. Marilyn Tracy - Code Name Ded-3. Betty Neels - Sister Peters in Am terdam (Mills and Boon) 4. Sally Wentworth - Guilty Wil (Mills and Boon)

5. Betty Neels - Promise of Han piness (Mills and Boon)

ing back into fashion."

grandson of John Buchan and who now chairs the Romantic Novelists'

Figures courtesy of BookTrack

Association, says romantic fiction has shoulder-padded female with her belt too ofteo been confused with roootched with orgasms has gone, along with Porsches and Margaret mance, which is nearer to the Mills Thatcher. Books that debate and emand Booo oovel. Romantic fiction, she says, follows in the tradition of phasise some kind of values are com-Jane Eyre and works by Hardy. In Far From the Madding Crowd, his hero-Mrs Buchan, who is married to the

ine goes through three men. Out of

that he sets a study of character and

landscape which informs and eoriches the personal drama played out. porate our preoccupation with hu-There are writers oo our short-

list who coold begin to emulate Hardy or Broote if they wished to. The change now is that by and large the 19th century romantic covels stopped at the altar. The romantic oovel today is much more willing to

look at marriage. They also incorman consciousoess and psychology. But they still tend to have a strong narrative drive, whereas other writers are interested in words and

mood." Writers and readers of ro-

female. There are few men among

mantic fiction largely continue to be hut is happy to be labelled a ro-

**CEdward** lay in his lover's arms and watched him sleeping ...

... the farmhouse was quiet: the deep, undisturbed peace of a Sunday afternoon, with the light fading at the window onto the yard, the covers heavy, love complete. Down in the unlit kitchen Tarn stirred in her basket, whimpered, settled again: it was so quiet he could hear the wicker creaking. and the steady tick of the clock, which drew breath and struck the hour. Rowland, sleeping,

heard it, and shifted, and opened his eyes. "Ssh. Don't move." .He shook his head,

reached for the watch on the table. Four o'clock. "Time for me to go, I'm afraid." He kissed Edward's

head, and made to get

"Not yet," said Edward. "Please, not "I must."

"Once more." "You can't mean it." "I can. All this time without you."

'It's only a week." "Only? Only?" An extract from The Hours Of

the associatioo's 400 members. But yesterday's shortlist did include a man. Andrew Greig wrote The Return Of John Macnab, a sequel to a work by Buchan. He too says that he did not think

of himself as writing romantic fictioo,

or see an appointed travel

Trainspotting, Spice Girls and Gucci pants: Bishops reveal their worldly wisdom

Clare Garner

Nineties hishops know their Spice. Far from living in the Dark Ages, Britain's clergy are up to speed on popular culture, with a working knowledge of the Spice Girls. Trainspotting and Georgio Armani.

Shedding their image of spiritual detachment, all 32 hishops responding to a survey by The Church of England Newspaper, had heard of the Spice Girls. Although this might say as much about the omnipresence of the all-girl band as their own worldliness,, the hishops went

further. Unlike John Major and Tony Blair, who can name two and three of the Spice Girls respectively, one bishop, the Pakistani-born Bishop of Rochester, the Rt Rev Michael Nazir-Ali, could name all five and another, the Rt Rev Lindsay Urwin, the Bishop

of Horsham.could name four. Eighty-four per cent could put a name to at least one despite the fact that only 93 per cent owned a television set - and some had gleaned that the Spice Girls (allegedly) can't

ng. One unnamed hishop, evidently a fan of Indian food, let the side down. He invented a completely new band member known as 'Hot Spice". Another said: "Those are the girls who don't wear very much."

Totting up their contemporary culture cred, 81 per cent knew that The English Patient had won nine Oscars, 43 per cent that Irvine Welsh wrote Trainspotting, and 45 per cent that Phil de Glanville was the current England rugby union captain.

The survey, which is published tomorrow, also revealed that the bishops are au fait with fashion, with 68 per cent able to name a hrand of designer clothing. Thir-

ty-two per cent said they enjoyed wearing the same brands as their flock, such as Calvin Klein and Ben Sherman, as well as watching the same programmes, such as Friends, Casualty, EastEnders and Neigh-

Some bishops admitted to using their street wisdom to get on to their congregation's wavelength. The Bishop of Bedford boasted that he had managed to slip Gucci underwear into one of his sermons, while the Bishop of Horsham chose to jazz up his sermons with references to songs such as "Search for the Hero" by M

But despite its efforts to appear more Top of the Pops than Songs of Praise, the Church of England still has some way to go. A press release on the survey revealed that Bishop Nazir-Ali could "name all



How the Bishops fared in the survey

Knew Mulder and Scully starred in the X-Files: 34 per cent (11) Knew The English Patient won nine Oscars: 81 per cent (26) Had heard of the Spice Girls: 100 per cent (32)

Knew that there were five in the band: 84 per cent (27). One bishop named all five, one got four of the names and two others got two.

Knew the book and film by Irvine Welsh on drugs was Trainspotting: 43 per cent (14).

Knew that Phil de Glanville was the current England rugby captain: 45 per cent (15) Named a brand of designer clothing: 68 per cent (22) - including Levi's (8), Gucci (5), Armani (3), Calvin Klein (2), Versace, Boss, Next, Dior, Lacoste. (Total bishops surveyed: 32)

Rembrandt found in antique shop

## Simon Reeve

A lost work by Rembrandt, hidden for four centuries, has been discovered on the back of an oil painting sold by a Yorkshire antique shop.

The "exceptionally rare" copperplate by the Dutch master was only revealed when an art expert decided to take a closer look at the painting by the Flemish artist Pieter Gysels.

After removing the Gysels from its frame and examining the copperplate behind it. Liesbeth Heenk from the Christies auction house "immediately" recognised it as a Rembrandt. Further research soon proved it to be one of only seven unsullied Remhrandt copperplates in

the world. Rembrandt's etchings were highly-prized while the painter was working. He would use the plates to make reprints when he had run out of stock of a particular print. However, other plates were often hadly reworked or restored and lost their original appearance.

According to Ms Heenk, the plate is of particular interest because it has never been reworked or restored and reveals the true mastery of Remhrandt's technique.

"This plate was used for one of the most superb of Remhrandt's etchings," said Heenk. "Of all plates known 10 us. this

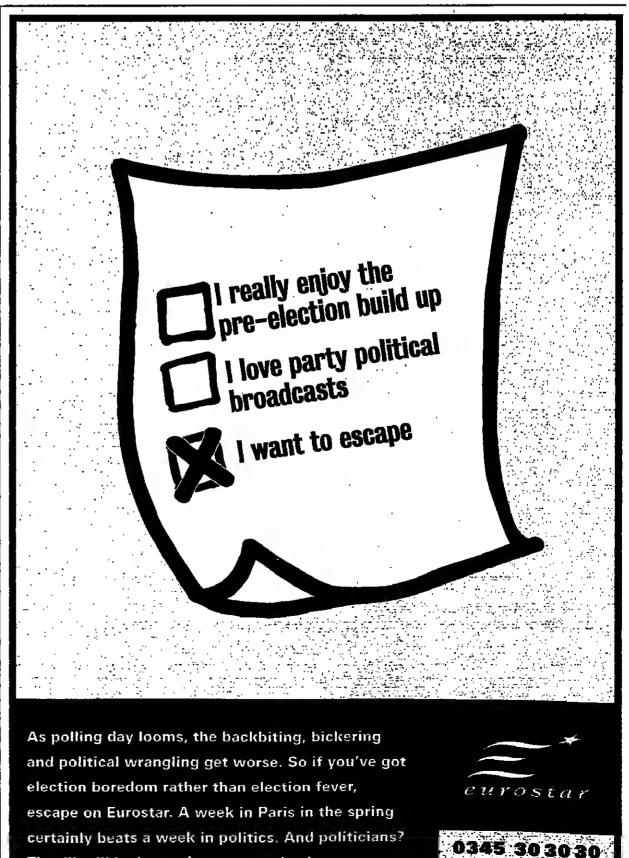
one is certainly in the best condition as it was never reworked after Rembrandt's death. The fact that Pieter Gysels made a cojoyed the painting and adafter Rembrandt's death. The landscape on the reverse makes the plate a very exciting historic document. The Rembrandt plate is en-

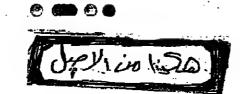
titled "Abraham Entertaining the Angels". It was cut in 1656, the year Remhrandt was declared a bankrupt. His precarious financial situation may have forced him to sell the plate. It is possible Gysel bought it directly, and then painted the landscape directly onto the copper surface some time before his death in 1691.

The family of the paioting's present owner, who has asked

to remain anonymous, bought it in 1946 from a small autique mired the work of the artist, but imagine my amazomeot when it was divulged that there was a Rembrandt original hidden on the reverse," said the owner. "I was stunned - we had no idea.

The copperplate and the pic-ture were displayed publicly yesterday for the first time in four centuries and will be sold at auction in June. Although the new owners will have additional worries about how to insure the work, they will also have to decide how to hang the plate or painting: do they prefer Gysels or Rembrandt?





They'll still be here when you get back.

# Yacoub: Why I didn't tell of risk to baby

The pioneering cardiac surgeon Sir Magdi Yacouh told a judge yesterday that the risk of heart transplant children suffering of the risks of death or other serinus permanent brain damage was so small he would not tell the parents about it unless specifically asked.

10-year-old Matthew Poynter a new heart when he was just 16months-old, was replying to accusations that his team at Harefield hospital wrongly failed to warn the baby's parents of the

Biggleswade. Bedfordshire are suing Hillingdon Health Authority in the High Court for damages on behalf of their

severely disabled son. They say they would have refused consent for the transplant had they been told of the risk, which tragically turned into reality.

The court has heard that Matthew, whose brain injuries occurred when he suffered a cardiac arrest during anaesthesia, was the only child to sustain brain damage among the 268 infants who have received

new hearts at Harefield. Prof Yacoub, a consultant car-

gave evidence that the brain common and he could not recall damage risk was less than one per cent. Parents were normally told common complications, but brain damage was not common.

He told Simeon Maskrey QC, for the Poynters, that he Professor Yacoub, who gave could not recall speaking to Mr and Mrs Poynter before Matthew's operation in December 1987, or whether he was told of their reluctance to

consent to transplantation. If he had been made aware possibility of brain injuries. that they were anxious to have
Kevin and Linda Poynter, of all available information on that they were anxious to have potential disability, he would have felt under a duty to speak to them.

The judge asked Prof Yacoub what he would have tald them. Sir Magdi said he would have spoken of the risks and benefits, but would probably not have told them about the small risk of brain damage unless specifically asked.

"I did not consider then, and don't consider now, that serious brain damage is such a common condition that I ought tn volunteer information," he said.

Questioned by Mr Maskrey, he said he was aware of the critical nature of Matthew's diothoracic surgeon at the hos- blood circulation before the pital in west London since 1968, operation, but this was not un-

being particularly concerned. He was aware that Matthew was considered incapable of receiving intravenous anaesthetic, but had no knowledge of could have nn his circulation. "I am not an anaesthetist.

That is an anaesthetic matter, said Prof Yacoub. Mr Maskrey suggested that, in that case, he had been in no position tn assess the risk of the

haby suffering a cardiac arrest Sir Magdi disagreed, saying he relied on experience. The anaesthetist was very experienced and it was up to him to

decide on the drugs used. Dr Richard Kirk, a former member of Prof Yacouh's team, denied telling Mrs Poynter that the hospital would have to consider seeking a court order if she continued to refuse

consent to a transplant. "I can't understand why I should have made such a statething, he was "over-zealous" in giving information to parents about the risks, he said.

The hearing continues today with expert medical evidence and is expected to end

# Disarming act of the lone bagpiper



Calling the tune: Great Highland piper and tutor James Clark Caution playing his bagpipes on Primrose Hill in north London, yesterday on the 250th anniversary of the Disarming Act, which outlawed all aspects of Highland culture, including the bagpipes

# Dixons

LAST CHANCE **FOR 4000 YEARS!** Make sure you catch Hale-Bopp before it fades into history



£99,99

9-2tx magnification.

Unique RB optics.

Comes with case.

Was £159.99.

CHINON 10-50x60

■ 10-50x zoom magnification. ● Unique optics • 60mm objective lens. • ideal for long distance viewing LARGER STORES

8x magnification.

construction. Was £33.99. £16.99

 16x magnification. 50mm objective

 Ideal for long range viewing.

CHINON 10x25 RB BINOCULARS Unique RB optics. 10x magnification.

Ultra compact

CHINON 8-20x50 RB BINOCULARS Powerful 8-20x zoon Unique RB optics.

BENOCULARS

 Powerful 9-45x zoon magnification. Unique RB optics 50mm objective

But the judge told the court

time a jury has split, the Crown

Door opened on the secret world of the marital dispute

The secret world of the marital row is being probed by re-searchers investigating the effects of domestic feuding on teenage children.

Volunteer children and their families are being quizzed about their relationships and some of them will be filmed as they discuss thorny topics like money, education, schooling, and inlaws. Psychologists will then assess how the children react and what situations they find the most stressful.

Psychologists at the University of Wales, Cardiff, are recruiting 500 schoolchildren aged 12 to 15 and their families for a three to five year study into the effect of marital conflict on the children and its links with childhood depression and behavioural problems.

One theory being tested is that children model themselves on the hehaviour of their parents. Another is that youngsters come out better if the argument between their parents is settled in front of them. Yet another is that children who witness aruments between their parents feel less secure in their own relationships with their parents.

The aim of the work is to come up with advice for parents on how feuding may effect their children, says family psycholo-gist, Dr Gordon Harold. "Children clearly respond to

what is going on between par-ents. We will be looking at the children's perceptions of events and about depression, malad-justment and anti-social behaviour. We will be looking at the child's understanding of or whether there is give and



Row stress: how children react

Photograph: TCI

what is happening and the ef- take. They will be asked about fects. Are the effects, for example, more potent if the child is the focus of the argument. he said. "Conflict of some kind occurs

in all homes. The bottom line to this research is finding information that will help parents understand how children interpret family events, how they view the sort of things that parents take for granted. We want to show parents how their behaviour can effect children." In the first part of the re-

search, the children will fill in questionnaires about their family life, and the parents will complete similar forms about their marriage and relationship.

Parents will be asked, for instance, about marital satisfaction and whether, when disagreements arise, they result in husbands or wives giving in measures of agreement and disagreement over a variety of domestic issues. Once the forms are done, the

researchers are planning a second phase in which some of the volunteer families will be filmed both in a family interaction laboratory at the university and in sessions at home.

"At this observational stage. some families who volunteer will come into the laboratory and sit in front of a camera and talk. After that we would like to put camcorders in some people's homes, maybe their kitchens, because you really need to see how they behave in their natural environment," said Dr Harold.

The team hope that by pinpointing what children find the most stressful, strategies can be introduced which will lessen the likelihood of behavioural prob-

# Frustrated judge seeks rethink on verdicts

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

A judge called yesterday for a Scottish-style "not proven" verdict for England and Wales after a jury failed to reach verdicts for a second time on theft charges against a former Salvation Army financial adviser.

Judge Gerald Butler OC said no fault should be attached to the jury at Southwark Crown Court for failing to come to a decision as he formally ordered that Stuart Ford, of Halifax, West Yorkshire, be found not guilty on all counts.

he regretted that the option of returning a not proven verdict, as in the Scottish legal system, was not available.

Because this was the second

Prosecution Service will not pursue another criminal trial, which I am concerned. although the Salvation Army has already successfully sued Mr Ford and others in a High

Court action in 1995 for the loss of a total of £6.6m from its funds is not proven. Mr Ford was found to be per-

sonally liable for about £2m and the Court of Appeal later rejected his challenge against the The not proven verdict is a

in 1992

half-way house between discharging the heavy burden of proving guilt beyond reasonable doubt and an acquittal.

The judge said: "My duty is to enter verdicts of not guilty on these counts.

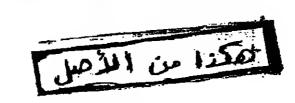
"It does occur to me we might learn something from has failed to agree in a case with

"In the Scottish jurisdiction the judge asked the jury if they find the defendant guilty or not guilty or if the case against him

"If we had a not proven verdiet here it might assist in a case of this kind.

Major Peter Smith, the Salvation Army's Legal and Parliamentary Secretary, said: "Lang pleased to say donations have remained at strong levels in recent years, despite some mix informed comments concerning the circumstances of the origi nal loss in 1992.

\*Our supporters have clear, ly realised that the Army was a victim of fraud and their couli. dence was rewarded when we the Scottish jurisdiction. This is announced the Jull recovery of not the first time a second jury all lost money.



# Just suppose that you could stroll from the National Gallery to Poet's Corner without crossing a road...

Jonathan Glancey Architecture Correspondent

Imagine being able to amble freely, head in the clouds, from the early Italiao Renaissance rooms of the National Gallery in London, across Trafalgar Square, down Whitehall and through Parliament Square all the way to Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey.

No chance of being run over by raging motorists, no stepping around civil servants' parked shamelessly in Horse Guards Parade. Enhanced settings for famous buildings and all but forgottee monuments.

A Milleanium project to transform the heart of Westminster - "World Squares for All - was announced yesterday by Westminster City Council. Consultants led by the architect Sir Norman Foster have drawn up a plan to conoect Trafalgar Square, Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, Parliament Square and the Thames at Hungerford Bridge via a chain of pedestrian spaces and links.

The project, funded to date by the Heritage Lottery Fund (£125,000), the private sector and the consultants (£125,000), is to be the subject of public consultation in June and July. A revised plan will be implemented sooo after so that "substantial elements", according to Westminster City Council, "will be-

come a reality by ... 2000." The consultants have produced options which include banishing traffic from cearly all of Trafalgar and Parliament Squares. Yesterday Sir Norman said at least a dozen major European cities had introduced pedestrianisation schemes on a similar scale. The costs of making the changes would range from a few million

pounds to £20m at the most. A visitor to the National Gallery today walks out on to a narrow strip of pavement separated from Trafalgar Square by a tide of furning traffic and crazed cyclists. It is, by the standards of the world's great squares, a barren space dominated for most of the year by pigeous and, on New Year's sequential increases in traffic Day, Scotsmen splashing in the fountains while Nelson on his column turns a blind eve. With



Create strong links between new Enhance setting of the Centraph improve pedestna

Trafalgar Square, Horse Guards tled along these arterial roads, Parade and Parliament Square where will it go? Without a cowill not become "heritage"style pedestrian precincts.

The "World Squares for All" project is not aimed at transforming the heart of London mlo a pedestrian play-pen or a heritage theme-park. The scheme aims to improve the flow of public transport and taxis, improve safety and minimise the diversion of "any concongestion and pollution."
This does raise the question,

which Foster and his fellow Londoners can rest assured any detail. If traffic is to be throt- a step in the right direction.

where will it go? Without a coordinated plan and without an enhanced London Transport in public hands, improvements to Trafalgar Square and envi-rons well rob Peter to pay Paul.

Millennium plans for London need a degree of co-ordination while life in the capital is increasingly subject to the uncertain laws of the market. Even so, the transformation of Trafalgar Square from a pi-geon feeding area and an annual bath for Scotsmen into a great

## World cities that square up to the new pedestrian age

Although many businessmen and council leaders have always claimed local economies suffer it cars and their wealthy pessengers are excluded from parts of city centres, there is growing evidence that pedestrianisation can be financially beneficial. In chies across the world pedestrians are limitly starting to win the buttle sufficiel. to with the car.

YORK: With its historic sites and traffic con-gestion, the centre of York was desperate trictions on the number of cers clogging its narrow streets. Pedestrian zones were introduced in 1987, and since then ve-hicles have been excluded from around the vehicles are excluded from 11am to 4pm during weekdays and noon to 4pm on Sundays, York aims to be the first city in Britain to take control of traffic, nativer than being controlled by it. By 1994, 20 per cent of all roads had been traffic calmed, and on unpedestrianised

peen trains carried, and on unpecestranised streets in the centre the speed limit is 20 mph. Accidents are down by two-thirds.

MILLAN: Banning cars is relatively common in Italy, and to liberate the congested heart of Millan the authorities have pedestrianised streets and tried to improve the design of the area. To limit treffic charge is the the sec. the area. To limit traffic chaos in the city can-tre, the authorities introduced a scheme where any vehicle entering the centre must-have a permit. The permits which have ac-quired the status of a winning lottery licket, are given to all residents, a limited number.

of employers and delivery-vehicles within cer-tain fours. Despite initial opposition to the scheme—court cases and protests—the lo-cal economy seems to base benefited and shops are reporting independent turnover. BOSTON: Planners say Boston is unusual among North American cities because the streets have evolved "organically", rather than along the typical grid said blook structure. As well as improving bicycle routes and in-troducing traffso calming investices in the cen-tre of the city, the Boston authorities are "undergrounding" one of the major arterial of employers and delivery vehicles within per-"undergrounding" one of the major arrents toads and harring the great above ground into parks. Roger Grahing, a transport and tand-use pleamer, says that one of the most tangenties as barries in North America

is to be found in Portland, Oregon, where a "skinny-streets" initiative - limiting the width of streets, curbing the speed of drivers and the amount of traffic - is operating.

SYDNEY: Sydney is a relatively new city with wide, open streets where congestion is less of a problem than in London or other British cities. However, the authorities have pedestrianised Martin Place, one of the city's most Important shopping streets, and have intro-duced traffic calming measures, including the use of road humps and traffic islands. In Adeteide and Brisbene the authorities have also pedestrianised major streets with a resulting increase in turnover for the local econom

# A Fresher way of Banking

basic services such as duplicate statements and stopping cheques? We think you'll find that at Abbey National we have a fresher view of banking. For example, we believe that these basic services shouldn't cost you anything, which is why we don't charge anything for them. Think how much that would save you a year. It's just one of the features that makes an Abbey National Bank Account so refreshing. What's more, so that the transfer from yours. old bank runs smoothly, new customers can enjoy an interest free overdraft for four months. You can open an Abbey National Bank Accoum from the comfort of your own home Simply call Abbey National Direct free of charge on 0500 200 500 quoting reference A511A/13. Alternatively If you would like more information simply call into your local branch.

Fed up with your bank charging for

"在您是要	"是""发生"的"心"	1 Depticate		otag a
以多类类似。		The second second		
		-Statement	Lin	que :
ABSEY MATIC	Name at the	None	. M.	ne ·
Ca. s.s. 40 6 6 7 7 6 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	10 1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	111	4 20 1	P* 01
BARCLATS		# Hone		8
LLOYDS	WINTER TO	£6		8
A Company of the Comp				
HIOLKHO		£5	£7	.50_
MITWEST	50 34 A	£5 (win)	***	7
and the same of the same of the same		A TOTAL POPULATION		
758		25	No.	ne
The Bearing Day	named 1 to All financial info	marker is checked for some	nor on a weekly leads	

of togen: now the second

· Charges 

A MUNICIPAL PROMERY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

Telephone lines open atlanday to Friday Gam-Sprin and Saturday Gam-Ipm. To assist us in Improving our service we may record or mention calls. Comparisons based on Interest hearing current accounts. All charges subject to change. Overdrafts and faultifunction cards are only available to Abbey National Bank Account holders, subject interest hearing current accounts. All charges subject to change. Overdrafts are evaluable on request. After the initial interest free period, interest will be payable at most and are not available to persons under 18 years. Written quotations are evallable on request. After the initial interest free period, interest will be payable at any time in accordance with our personal to status and one accordance with our personal time standard variable rate, currently 11.9% APR on authorised overdrafts. APR is variable. All overdrafts are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal time standard variable rate, currently 11.9% APR on authorised overdrafts. APR is variable. All overdrafts are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal time standard variable rate, currently 11.9% APR on authorised overdrafts. APR is variable. All overdrafts are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal time standard variable rate, personal time and accordance with our personal time. All overdrafts are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal time standard variable rate, personal time personal time personal time. All overdrafts are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal time. All overdrafts are repayable at any time personal time personal time personal time personal time personal time. All overdrafts are repayable at any time personal tim

# IS YOUR HAIR THINNER THAN IT WAS A FEW YEARS AGO?

In a recent survey of 500 women, a staggering 33% reported hair loss.

One of the reasons for hair loss in women is nutritional. 10 years's research has now produced an effective supplement it's called Nutril lair

In a recent survey 33% of women stated they had experienced hair loss in recent years, and that this caused them distress and anxiety. It is perfectly natural to lose some hair every day. But if you feel your hair loss is increasing or you have less hair than you used to, then Nutril lair could be

"I have about a third less hair than I used to have. Nobady believes I have a problem because I still have a lot of hair but I know its has changed and I am very worried".

Nutriliair could be for you if you can answer yes to any of these

Do you have less hair than you used to?

2. Does more hair fall out when you shampoo, brush or comb your hair? 3. Is there less hair in your ponytail or the amount you can dip back?

The facts about hair growth Hair growth is cyclical. Each hair grows for up to 3 years and is then shed. Its follicle rests for about 12 weeks and then starts growing a new hair. It is normal to lose between 50-150 hairs per day. But, if the three year growth stage shortens,

even just a little, there will be an increase in

hair shedding. If this continues for several

months the amount of hair will become The warning signs: more hair in the brush, less hair in the panytail

If you are losing more hair than you once were it is usually obvious when washing, brushing or styling your hair. Causes of increased hair loss





This increases hair shedding by affecting the hair growth cycle. Nutril lair has been

developed by one of Britain's leading hair specialists and is based on 10 years careful

anolysis involving hundreds of women. The studies show that the unique combination of In trial conditions women using NutriHair' naticed some reduction in hair loss three to four months after starting the supplement. It can take up to 6 months to see the full

Your first month's supply is free For the quickest results three tablets should be taken daily for the first three months. After that, just one tablet daily should help mointain maximum hair volume. The special introductory offer price of £29.90 - three packs for the price of two-gives you enough Nutril Init\* for three months. Then one pack at £14.95 will last you

Your money-back guarantee NutriHair' is a highly reputable product only available from Nature's Best, Should you complete the 3 month course and notice no benefit we will refund your money in full. However, it is stressed that the full benefits of NutriHair are only seen at 6 months, No other company offers you such a guarantee for a hair product. It is based on the confidence we have in NutriHair\*. Any questions?

Our Nutrition Advisors will be happy to answer any questions you may have about Nutri Hair. Please call 01892 552175 between 9am-5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

**2** 01892 552132 MASTERCARD, VISA, SWITCH AND DELTA CARD HOLDERS 6.00pm Mon - Fri and 8.30pm - 12 noon Sat.

NATURE'S BEST The UK's largest mail order supplier of

Nature's Best Health Products Ltd., bert's Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3EQ ingredients in NutriHair® could make a real difference to the amount of hair you grow. Registered in England No. 1518391.

i	To: Noture's Best, Freepost, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3BR. (No stamp in Please send me 3 month's supply of Nutril lair* at the introductory price of £29.90.	_
	t Tenclose a cheque/PO for £29.90 mode payable to Nature's Best Health Products Li or please debit my Mastercord/Visa/Switch/Delta Card no.	d.
1		
	Switch/Delta   Switch   Switch   Switch   Switch   Switch   Sugar   Switch   Sugar   S	
	Cardholder's Signature	
	Name Mr/Mrs/Ms	
į	Address	
	Postcode	
ı	Providence of the Foodback No. 1419301	100

# The parents who cheat for their children

# Phoney addresses and religious 'conversion' help win school places

Lucy Ward Education Correspondent

The rise in the number of cheating parents using false addresses and religious "conversions" to win places for their children at popular schools is forcing a clampdown by headtcachers

and local authorities. Oversubscribed schools are now asking parents for proof of residence to catch out those who falsely suggest they live within

popular school catchment areas. Meanwhile, church schools are instituting more checks to ensure overnight converts with no church-going record do not jump the admissions queue.

A crackdown has been launched by secondary schools in Bromley, Kent, after a survey carried out this month revealed up to 82 families had

given more than one address and sometimes as many as four - in separate applications for places in September.

Schools in the borough, where some parents admit paying friends and acquaintances to borrow" addresses near favoured schools, are already asking for solicitors' letters confirming exchange of contracts on a house sale or proof of longterm rental stretching back at least a year before admission. Parents found cheating will have offers of places withdrawn.

Next year, the schools are considering asking all appli-cants for proof of residence, such as a utilities hill or councii tax hooklet, or may crosscheck addresses against the ciectoral roll.

The survey in Bromley. where every school selects at



Getting tough: Bob Cook, head of St Augustine's RC School in Trowbridge, is aiming to tighten admissions

least 15 per cent of pupils, provides the first hard-and-fast evidence of a problem known by authorities to be on the rise country-wide hut never measured nationally.

"Marie", a mother of three who lives in Bromley and who insisted on anonymity, was one of the cheating parents. Her son secured a place on the basis of

Last November, the season of with a friend in a more affluent applications for secondary ces. Marie left her husband and three children in the family home on a council estate in St Paul's Cray and moved in

area close to the school of her choice. She gave the "borrowed" address as her own on the school application form. "I decided to use a bogus ad-

dress after I had rung the school's admissions secretary and she told me I was outside

Photograph: John Lawrence

"I know a lot of people who have bought addresses, sometimes for as much as £180. I don't have that kind of money. but I would have cut down on food for myself and my husband to raise it. I'm a law-abiding person, but I would even have

the catchment area." Marie

stolen if I had to." Faced with the reality that one in five children is now denied their first choice of school (rising to one in two in London), parents desperate to squeeze their children into flourishing schools with high league table placings will resort to desperate measures. Their tactics include claiming they are on the verge of moving into an area, using a relative's address, or even temporarily splitting up, renting a flat for one partner close to the preferred school and registering it as the child's address, and then "reconciling" once an offer of a place is made.

Others are prepared to pay as much as £2,500 n month in rent for property within a catchment area. To secure places in church schools, which generally score highly in league tables, parents will begin to attend church with pious regularity, and may rush to have their offspring confirmed.

St Augustine's Roman Catholic School in Trowbridge, Wiltshire, is typical of many popular church schools in introducing ever stricter criteria to try to sort true believers from sudden converts. Its key

admission category - haptised Catholic children - has just been split into baptised and truly committed Catholics.

Priests are given a detailed form on which to record church attendance of prospective pupils and are now asked not merely for support for applications but "support on religious grounds".

The heavily oversubscribed school, where 78 per cent of pupils gain five or more A-C ades at GCSE, is so popular that one Catholic parent living outside its catchment area plans to send her child on a 44-mile daily round trip by taxi to attend.

The headteacher, Bob Cook, said: "Every year we look at our admissions procedure and see how can we tighten it up. Grant-maintained schools, which act as their own admissions authorities, are prepared to use home visits to parents as a last resort. Staff from Ecclesbourne School in Duffield, Derbyshire, have waited outside addresses offered on applications form to confirm suspicious that no child lives there.

Local anthorities, like schools, confirm the number of parents prepared to deceive to get the school they want is rising, albeit often from a low base outside London, Calderdale, West Yorkshire, is typical in identifying an extension of parental manoeuvering to primary schools, as a means of securing progression to a favoured secondary.

The authority expects more shopping around during the next round of admissions as parents consider the new primary league tables published for the first time last month.

LEA leaders hlame the growing trend on the Conservative government's deregulation of admissions and promotion of the concept of parental choice, Roy Pryke, chairman of the Association of Chief Education Officers, is calling for a summit with a new government on the admissions issue immediately after the election.

He said: "It is a matter of producing arrangements which still leave parents with the capacity lo express a preference and wherever possible the right for them to have their choice, hut at the same time to have arrangements which are much more co-ordinated than at present. At the moment, the weakest go to the wall. It is the children whose parents don't know their way round the sys-

# How middle class families win the game

Judith Judd Education Editor

Schools are using covert selection to give middle-class race to secure places at schools with good exam results, according to research. Comprehensive schools,

which say they are not selective, are interviewing parents and children to pick well-behaved pupils who will boost their eague table performance, says the study from the London School of Economics. Most of the schools involved

have opted out of local authority control and can decide their own admissions policy. They are choosing children according to a bewildering array of admissions criteria including appearance, parents' occupation, career aspirations and hobbies. Comprehensive schools

which used to be grammars are giving preference to the children and grandchildren of former pupils. The three-year study, which as funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, in-

volved interviews with 120 families whose children were transferring to secondary school in and around London.
It concludes that recent reforms allow a growing number of schools to decide their own admissions policies and select

pupils and to admit children

who do not live locally, favour-ing middle-class applicants. The study found middle-class parents were no more likely than working-class parents to get their first choice of secondary school. But middle-class children were more likely to end results than their working-class

counterparts. Middle-class children who failed to get into their first not part of the admissions choice of school often opted to criteria." travel to a high-scoring school which might be as much as 15

By contrast, working-class children who applied unsuc-



cessfully to a high-scoring school could not afford to travel and usually ended up at a nearby low-scoring school.

One single mother explained she could not afford the £10 fare needed to send her son on the 15-mile train journey to school to join his middle-class

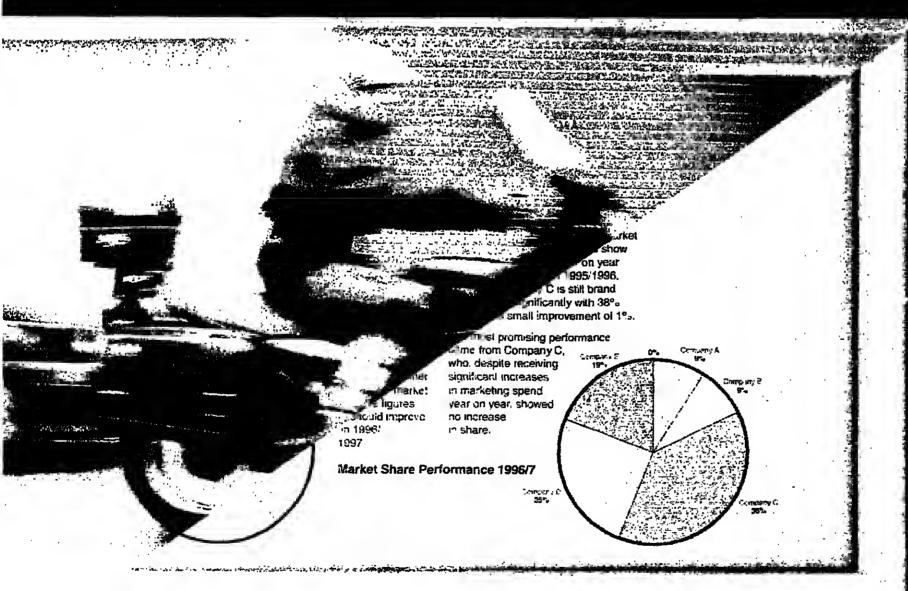
Ambitious working-class families who applied unsuc-cessfully to schools with good exam results eventually found themselves at lower-scoring schools than working-class families who had been less amhi-

Dr Anne West, of the Centre for Educational Research at the London School of Economics, said: "At least with grammar and secondary modern schools the selection all these other factors are involved in selection, it is less clear what is going on.

"The main problems are that covert selection is likely to lead np at schools with good exam to social selection and that application forms are being used to ask for information, such as appearance, which is

> She said some parents were so daunted by the information requested on application forms that they were put off applying





BT's ISDN sends information faster than any other form of conventional delivery. Because it's digital, it carries information at up to four times the speed of an ordinary phone line. So you can send everything from documents to graphics at the touch of a button. And you'll save

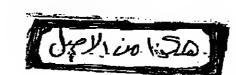
your business money: even if you only use one courier a week locally, you could save up to £1,272 pa1. Our new range of ISDN pricing options starts at a surprisingly low £199°. For details, call BT Businesscomections on Freefone 0800 800 800.

Freefone 0800 800 800

and of the new colors of the section of the result of the section of the section of the state of

immediate based 60% of centerly lines for hell (1.05%), interestion in capabilities of 1.44 injuries in 100 per amount endouvers did about action and in and in

Fraelay ingon 900 955 e-mail is orkomari Swhites 1.cov/bit on uk



# Spring arrives a week earlier than in 1970s

Charles Arthur Science Editor

If you think spring seems early this year, you're right. The green shoots of regrowth now arrive a week earlier in the northern bemisphere than they did in the 1970s, according to analysis of satellite data.

While the news may he good for gardeners and sunseekers, it also provides the strongest indications that global warming. caused hy the build-up of carbon dioxide from fossil fuels in the atmosphere, is well under way. The result could be calamitous changes in weather locally and globally.

Scientists at Boston University and the space agency Nasa compared satellite data which measured the amount of vegetation in the northern hemisphere from the period between 1981 and 1991 with that from the early 1970s. They found that plant regrowth after winter was happening sooner than before. Other figures have shown that the period since 1980 has been the warmest, in terms of global temperature, for the past 200

The earlier plant growth is probably due to a combination of higher air temperatures and increased carbon dioxide.

Gardening in the Tropics, you never know what you'll turn up. Quite often, bones. In some places they say when volcanoes erupt, they spew out dense and monumental as stones the skulls of desaparecidos - the disappeared ones. Mine is only a kitchen garden so I unearth just

was of a young man from the country who lost his way and crossed the invisible boundary into rival political territory. I buried him again so he can carry on growing. Our cemietenes are thriving too. The newest addition was the drug baron wiped out in territorial competition

occasional skeletons. The latest

who had this stunning funeral complete with twenty-one-gun salute and attended by everyone, especially the young girls famed for the vivacity of their dress, their short skirts and

even briefer lives.

**Brief Lives** By Olive Senior

DAILY POEM

The Jamaican poet Olive Senior will be reading in Britain next week as part of the Commonwealth Festival of Literature, together with David Malouf, Mordecai Richler and Witi Ihimaera.

The events take place at the Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff on 23 April at 8pm; at the Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre, Leeds University, on 25 April, 6pm; and at the Pegasus Theatre, Oxford on 26 April, 8pm. "Brief Lives" comes from Olive Senior's collection Gardening in the Tropics (Bloodaxe).

tion will absorb some of the vegetation in high latitudes gains carbon emitted from consuming fossil fuels, it will not compen sate for human-generated output, said Peter Cox, who is creating computer models of vegetation growth in global climate at the Hadley Weather Centre in Bracknell, Berkshire.

Professor Cox said: "Vegetation absorbs between 1 and 2. gigatonnes [thousand billion tonnes] of carbon at the moment, but that has to be compared to about 7 gigatonnes of fossil fuel output.

The researchers, whose work is reported today in the science. journal Nature, said the effects of the "early spring" are not evenly spread, with central Europe, southern Russia and a broad region near Lake Baikal in Siberia the most affected. The changes are concentrated in the temperate areas of the hemisphere, between 45 and 70 degrees north.
The satellite data showed

other indications that global warming is under way: a 10 per cent reduction in the length of winter snow cover from 1973 to 1992, and the earlier disappearance of snow in spring.

Professor Cox said that while the data might seem like good news, the effects of global warmrecreased carbon dioxide. ing were unpredictable. The problem is that although the

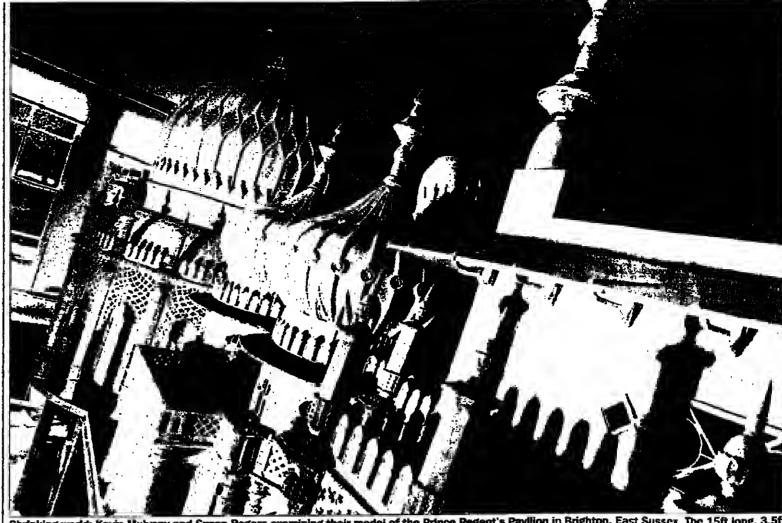
from the temperature and where - such as in the tropics and equatorial regions - will lead to a reduction in vegetation."

The one positive note is that the results agree with the computer models developed at Bracknell, suggesting that their projections for climate change

The Army has stopped using flares and tracer rounds on thousands of acres of Dartmoor because of the fire risk in tinder dry drought conditions. The commander of Devon

and Cornwall training areas, Lt-Col Tony Clark said units were not allowed to use tracer rounds, illuminating flares for night exercises, or anything likely to cause a fire.

The dry spell is worrying farmers in the area and the next week will be "critical" for farmers who have just sown crops.



Shrinking world: Kevin Mulvany and Susan Rogers examining their model of the Prince Regent's Pavilion in Brighton, East Sussex. The 15ft long, 3.5ft high replica is to go to the Carol and Barry Kaye Museum of Miniatures In Los Angeles

Photograph: Tom Phiston

# With a Nationwide mortgage

you're home and dry



**UP TO** £10,000 **CASHBACK** 

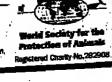
on red bot plates, whilst the back of his legs are hit in time kers taunt him and force him to drink beer.

The World Society for the Protection of Animais (WSPA) 'dancing bears' and takes them to sanctuaries like you. Your gift of just £10, or whatever you can send your donation today. He's counting on you.

YES, I WANT TO CUT THE CHAINS!

pas payable to MSPA or equiplete the profit card details believe.) Pulleti/Eurocaed/CAF CharleyCard Protes detel as application 

CALL 0990 214 214 NOW TO MAKE AN RISTANT DONATION.



your new home - until you have to start paying for all those essential little extras which leave you with a not-so-little bill. That's why Nationwide offers you a generous cashback of up to £10,000\*.

It's a really satisfying feeling moving into

You could have up to 3% of your total loan as a cashback, up to a maximum of £10,000. The amount depends on the

size of your deposit and whether you take our competitive huildings and contents insurance. But whichever option you take, you'll benefit from our competitive standard variable rate, currently 6.99% APR 7.3% (variable).

How can we do this? Because we are committed to remaining customer owned. With no dividends to pay to shareholders, we

Nationwide.

Find us on the Internet at http://www.nationwide.co.uk

aim to pass on the henefits to you through competitive mortgage rates now and in the long term. So before all those little hills mount up to make it a rainy day, make sure you're home and dry with a Nationwide cashback mortgage. Call Nationwide - the Mortgage Award Winners free on 0800 30 20 10 (quoting ref:

> IN99) for a quick and easy mortgage quote, hetween 8am - 8pm weekdays, 9am - 5pm weekends. Or visit your local branch.

(VARIABLE)



# US computer giant to run BBC finances

Firm founded by Ross Perot gets £40m contract to run Corporation's accounting systems

## Kim Sengupta and Mark Rowe

An American computer company linked to the Iran-Contra scandal, and which once employed Mark Thatcher as a salesman, has picked up a 10-year contract with the BBC worth £40.5m in the first year alone.

This is the latest scalp for Electronic Data Systems, the company started by billionnaire and United States presidential can-

didate Ross Perot. Mr Thatcher's appointment by the company while it was pitching for a £1.6m Department of Social Security contract - and while his mother was Prime Minister-led to questions being asked in the Commons. It was the beginning of EDS' British connec-tion and the multi-national firm has since gained half the British government's information tech-

nology contracts. The BBC vecture involves EDS, in alliance with the accountants Coopers & Lybrand. taking over the Corporation's 30 financial systems and turning into a single shared unit. If the first-year project is successful, the BBC will give its whole financial operation to the EDS and Coopers.

The BBC has stated that no



employees due to be transferred are believed to be oo

short term contracts. The Corporation stresses that substantial savings are expected by the re-structuring, and the mooey will be ploughed back into programme making

The move represents a mastaff will be made redundant as a result of the EDS-Coopers ion, and potentially politically sensitive scaling up of the

project. But many of the 700 BBC's use of outside consul-

Last year it provoked Parliamentary action after adopting a plan outlined by management consultants McK-

John Birt was forced to back down by Foreign Secretary Mal-colm Rifkind and Overseas Aid minister Baroness Chalker who

HURRY - LAST 7 DAYS! OFFERS MUST END APRIL 23rd

THSKICHEN

insisted on a blueprint of 20 safeguards to prevent the integrity of the World Service from being compromised.

The deal has brought the activities of the EDS into focus. Since arriving across the Atlantic, the company has infiltrating into some of the biggest instituitions and industries in Britain supplying information technology (see panel).

EDS has long been embroiled in controversy. In 1987, a Congressional report on the Iran-Contra affair detailed how Mr Perot had supplied more than £1m for Colooel Oliver North's attempts to bribe hostage takers.in the Lebanon.

Two Perot aids had flown the cash to Cyprus in suitcases. A print in the company's head-

TO CHOOSE FROM

homeworks

international adventure where, it is claimed, former naval officer Ross Perot personally "sprang" two EDS executives from an Iranian jail. The operation was used by thriller writer Keo Follet as the basis for his 1983 bestseller, On Wings of Ea-

The British connection with the cootroversy began when Mr Perot put up Mark Thatcher at his Dallas mansion. Mrs Thatcher's son has just been "let go" by General Motors who had taken over his previous employers, Lotus Cars.

Mr Perot stated he was 'ashamed" of the way Mark Thatcher had been treatted after his mother's loyal support of the United States.

At the time EDS was ag-gressively attempting to break into the British Government market for contracts on defence and information technology. Mark Thatcher was taken on its books as a sales consultant, although this was initially not known publicly.

The conduct of EDS had already been raised in the House Dalyeli over allegations the company had misled vieration officers to avoid

permits. Following this, Michael Casey head of London firm of lobbyists, Sallingbury Castle, who had been hired by the company, informed the Cabinet Office of Mr Thatcher's work with EDS.

es in the House when Labour MPs questioned the ethicacy of the arrangement EDS claimed that Mark Thatcher's work concerned the Far East, and not British cootracts. Mrs Thatcher is said to have

There were repeated clash-

discussed the affair with her son, people close to her maintained that she was not aware of Mark Thatcher's work for the com-

She visited Dallas four months later to see Mark, his new wife Diane Bergdon, and their baby son. She was introduced to a oumber of her soo's

## How EDS rules the world

EDS was formed in 1962 and bought by General Motors in 1984. Split off from General Motors in 1996. If employs more than 10,000 staff and serves more than 250 clastomers in tilk where its client list includes:
Chill Sepritics: Department of Social Security's Benefits Agency. Child Sepritics: Department of Social Security's Benefits Agency. London (runs computer systems to support 2,5million benefits and pensions payments each week); Child Support Agency. London (system maintenance and support); Intand Revenue, London (system maintenance and support); Intand Revenue, London (State Contract to cover all IT including new system for tax self-essessment); Ministry of Defence, London (co-ordinating army logistics systems); Paymaster General; London (processes pensions for 500,000 chil servarits and more than one million other public sector workers – In conjunction with those Replacements of the systems one million other public sector workers – In conjunction with the processes (processing licence details).

History (processing licence details).

Health Social and West Regional NHS Executive, Bristol (runs computer genices): Grampian Health Authority, Aberdeen (creating a patient health card system).

Services is Leadon: London Underground (information systems); Metropolitan Police (creating computer network to link comertecides for all London police stations); London bonoughs of Byert, Knoston and Wandsworth (manage revenue and benefits systems). Majorbester (develop reservations and filiance systems); Residency (processe control); UK, Chil Aviation Authority, London (actimistration systems and services); Visuadual Motors (GM), Lundon (support all IT services); Aliance and Leicester & Girobank. EDS was formed in 1962 and bought by General Motors in-

Offices in 42 countries worldwi

Countries in Europe, Africa and Middle East. Turnover in this region was \$3.4on in 1896 and clients include: Netherlands: Sweden: Saab, France: France Telecom. Balgain: European Parliament administration records. Poland: Polish Power Grid. Genary: Deutsche Telecom.
Former Wigostavia: Set up multimedia
system to help UN High Commissioner for
Resugess reunite families separated by war.
Also runs IT systems in New Zealand and
for the government of South Australia. United States: IT for

Medicare and Medicald, General Motors, American Express Benk: South America: (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Veisizarela) Asia (Singapore, Indonesia, Talwan, China and South Koree).

Technology services supplier to 1992 Bercelone Olympics, 1994 World Dup in United States and for 1998 World Cup in France.

By 1984 the company had been bought by General Motors from Ross Perot. In turn the automobile giant split from it in 1996, it now trades on the New York and Loodon stock exchange with its own independent board of directors.Its client list includes the Ministry of Defence, the Department of Transport, the Lord Chancellors Department, the Civil Avia-

tion Authority, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority and the Metropolitan Police a well as Rank Xerox, Vauxhall Motors, and Rolls Royce. It employs over 10,000 staff, and last year declared revenues of

Globally EDS straddles 42 countries, employing 100,000 employees. Last year its turnover was £9bo.



# **BUILDING SOCIETIES ACT 1986**

Notice under paragraph 7 of Schedule 17 to the Act.

Notice is hereby given that Northern Rock Building Society, Register No.703B, whose principal office is at Northern Rock House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL, desires to transfer its business to Northern Rock plc, and that the society has applied to the Building Societies Commission to confirm the transfer.

Any interested party may make written representations to the Commission and/or give notice of intention to make oral representations to the Commission with respect to the application. Written representations and notices of intention to make oral representations should be received by the Commission at Victory House, 30 - 34 Kingsway, London WC2B 6ES by 15 May 1997. Oral representations will be heard by the Commission on 17 June 1997 at a time and place to be determined by the Commission.

NORTHERN ROCK

DEPENDENT

world

🛊 more than 250

's Benofit: Agency

authort Agency

mand Revenue

reg mere system to

ndon (co-main.m

**its and m**ove than

conjunction with

unt Londen

wednes), DVLA

rity. Attendenn

(micharia):

CHARL LOLLING

muser metacricie

The (PRESTURED COVERED

Red into a venter

menaliser (a michaele

Breit Us Lander

Edication Edicates (Caroline Edicates (Caro

and States, If he

constant I species

his Calcumbat and

man. Chain and

forte Capacidae

Bound the Proper

Married by Antes

Marik Service Law

and Roll Research

ar history of the

printed to the

By 1188 males

 $\sigma_{\star}$  , apple of  $\beta^{\star\star}$ 

eco Tarana

 $e^{i \mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{k}} (\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{k}}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{k}} (\mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{k}})}$ 

1986

1 Security

Higgs Black

 $\in \mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{C}}^{\mathrm{opp}(\mathbf{r}) \underline{\mathcal{L}}}$ 

d that the

arminan."

datist) To

\$65 175 3 KC

ect to the

uf errte-eile.

1 by the

W. Barrelin

糖 \$5000

Charles Land

stations, Personal frame

London

# Labour plays its health card

Christian Wolmar

Labour is moving onto its favoured home territory when it launches its campaign on the National Health Service this morning - recruiting Superman to help it with its cause.

While the timing had long heen planned, Lahour is delighted that it is playing its strongest card oow wheo the Tories have already been hadly weakened by their row over

A Labour source said last night: "We could not have hoped for a better time to move on to our agenda". He said Labour had a higger lead on its competency to run the health service than on any other issue.

Labour will say there are "14 days to save the NHS" because the NHS would be unrecognisable by the end of a fifth Tory term which, the party claims, would lead to "piece by piece" privatisation and further use of internal markets creating more bureaucracy.

However, unlike previous election campaigns, Labour can oo looger boast it will spend more than the Tories oo the NHS. Instead it will focus on its greater efficiency at spending the money and at its plans to abolish the internal market and change the system for fund-

campaign, three Labour front- vate, insurance? Who is your heochers - John Prescott, GP? If you have insurance or Margaret Beckett and Chris are registered with the right GP Smith - spoke et Lough-fundholder, you get priority.If borough, e key target seat which not, you go to the back of the has been deserted by Health queue."

Secretary Stephen Dorreil Mrs Beckett cited the example of Christopher Reeve, the American actor who played Superman hut who was paralysed in a riding accident and who has been expressing concern over whether he can afford his health bills. Mrs Beckett said he was "a man worth more than you or me, a man stricken down in the prime

of life, a man who wonders

openly what happens when the

money runs out. She argued that the NHS was one issue where there was "clear blue water" between Labour and the Tories, saying: "There is no ideal more great, oo design more grand, no new direction eeded more desperately than in Britain's need for e health service fit for a oew millennium".

While trying to eschew any new promises aboot the NHS. Mrs Beckett raised some hostages to fortunes by saying that under the Tories people have had to wait 12 hours oo a trolley for treatment and have had their operations cancelled three times because there is not enough staff. She also asked: "Will the local casualty department be closed or just too busy to edmit your child in an

Mr Prescott drew a picture of a semi-privatised health serolding GPs. ... vice: "Wheo people come in Last night, as o prelude to the they are asked: do you have pri-



Fawity phone-in: John Cleese loosening up with Liberal Democrat supporters yesterday

Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

## John Cleese proves Lib Dems are Row rages over game for a laugh - inadvertently opting-out leaflet

**Education Correspondent** 

A row broke out yesterday over a newsletter urging parents of 75,000 children in opted-out schools to vote for pro-optingout election candidates.

A leaflet produced by PASS, a group representing parents of children in grant-maintained schools, says only the Conservatives plan to retain GM status if re-elected, then asks readers to vote to ensure the schools remain unchanged.

Grant Maintained Schools Parents' Association, came under fire for "brazenly" encouraging parents to vote Conservative. Local Schools Information, e pro-local authority schools ad-

visory body, also said heads and governors of GM schools could be breaking the law if they used pupils to distribute the

PASS, which defines itself as strictly non-political body. denied it was promoting one party and insisted it wanted parents to challenge all candidates over their views on opting out.

The PASS newsletter, called PassMark, is headlined The vital choice you face about your child's future". It lists the achievements of grant-mainthem. "We are shortly to have a General Election and, sadly, the future of your child's school may be at stake"....

Barrio Clement lo," he said as if surprised. John Cleese turned Church

House into Fawlty Towers yesterday, coming to the aid of his beloved Liberal Democrats in a somewhat flawed live "phone link" with converts to the cause.

The object of the exercise was a jocular trialogue between the comic, Paddy Ashdown and tame members of the electorate conducted at Church House in Westminster, live and under the glare of the media.
The problem was that some

first up. His phone rang for some time. "He's not in," said Mr Cleese. Eventually Mr always insisted that they want-

," he said as if surprised.

The man from Southport this what they had in mind?

said he had heen meaning to become a member of the party for some time and that he had voted for no one else. What was it about the political broadcast - by John Cleese - which had persuaded him to tie the political knot? "To be quite hooest,

oothing," came the reply.

Mr Cleese then asked him what he had written in an imassioned postcard to the Liberal Democrats. "Can't remember." Mr Ashdown prompted him that he had written on his con-

"Did I?" was his reply. The Liberal Democrats have

Mr Ashdown kept reminding Mr Whinnerah that the press was present. Memhers of the media seemed to be shaking uncontrollably during the phone

link, apparently in mirth. At one stage the increasingly tetchy Liberal Democrat leader chided the new member for failing to discern that he had taken over the telephone. "I thought 1 was still talking to John," said Mr Whinnerah. "Surely you can tell the difference between our voices," said Mr Ashdown.

Then the untutored punter began to hold forth on unleadpetrol causing cancer.

whom the issue of carcinogenic fuel came out of the blue.

Margaret Heath, of Cumbria, was breathlessly supportive of the humorous approach espoused by the Liberal Democrats. "I think we should laugh at

ourselves a bit more," she said. Taking the conversation to a higher plain, Mr Cleese volunteered that he has once interviewed the Dali Lama. "He said that when people laugh it

loosens up their thinking."

The former member of Monty Python's Flying Circus began to loosen up himself when Brin Dimmot, from Basingstoke, came on the line. "Is your name an anagram?" he teased. "It's genuine, "Where did you get that from it's me," came the reply.

# Kissable Tony brings a little spice to town

John Walsh mingles with Blair's enthusiastic fans in Monmouth

Outside the Punch House, a charming ancient pub in cobbled Agincourt Square, the Monmouth Spice Girls were

gening excited.

Kelly, Ceri, Michelle, Sheryl
and Catherine had all shamelessly bunked off Maths at Monmouth's Comprehensive to clap eyes on Tony Blair, Why? "cos he's sexy," ventured Sheryl. "I am going to vote Labour," said Kelly, who is 18 and a little madam, "because they're going to help the poor and do more for young people. The Conservatives just help rich people. This world needs a change," she ended ringingy. Someone wondered if the abour boss would kiss the baby in the red, straw hat. "I wish he'd kiss me," breathed Ceri (16 and a hit of a minx).

The kissahle Tony was in Monmouth to support Huw Edwards, who lost to the Tories in 1992 by 3,200 votes. His rival, Roger Evans, (now Junior Minister for Social Security) swiftly became the day's pan-tomime villain. As Blair fans with placards surged outside the pub and the photographers mounted their familiar barricade, a dark hlue Volvo purred up and down the street; from its dim interior Evans' plumy monotooe taunted the crowd.
WHAT U-TURNS WILL
LABOUR PERFORM NOW?" The car's loudspeaker rudely inquired, "ARE YOU ALLOWED TO ASK QUES-TIONS OR IS THIS JUST ANOTHER PHOTO OP-PORTUNITY?" The crowd booed, except for a trio of Tory ladies with blue rosettes and

seats on the local council. On the wall behind the snapstood a statue of He wbo was born in Monmouth in 1387. Given his looming presence and the fact that we were in Agincourt Square, it was tempting to look for parallels: Mr Blair as Hal, super-patriot and God-annointed sovereign.
Calling the Might of Englaod
to his side against the, er.
French? No, that won't do.
John Prescott as Sir Joho Palstaff, hard-drinking embodiment of old values, now fallen on hard times? Ron Davies, the shadow Welsh secretary (who was there) as Fluellen? There

was, however, no need to look lor an enemy to fight when you had Mr Evans I"WE SEEM TO BE WAITING AN EX-TREMELY LONG TIME. CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT FOR. THREE CHEERS FOR JOHN MAJOR" I volunteering for the part.

Tony and Cheric arrive. beaming and waving. Mrs Blair betrays no trace of nerves at these events, gaily telling a black law student "gimme a call some time," when his mioi-

pupillage is over.

The baby in the straw hat (Molly Angharad Williams, 10 months) was proferred, but Iony declined to kiss her. He'd made a time speech this morning about the "seven killers of a decent society", full of unusually concrete notions, but its rightful place in the news headlines had been gazumped by yet more tales of Tory disunity. He was clearly a little pissed off by

-MRFFWHWLLGG BAR-RAWHYLLGOGOGOCH, intoned the unseen Mr Evans from further up the road. Either he was speaking to Welsh or his megaphone had been spin-doctored, "I'm delighted to see you, Mr Evans," said Blair, pleased to have even an incomprehensible heckler, "and I shall be even more delighted to wave you bye bye". Mr Evans hooks off back to his lair.

There's such an air of supremacy about the Labour leader now, all justing chin and balled fists, you believe him capable of anything - going 10 rounds with Lengox Lewis, invading a neutral country. And perhaps it was the stone salute of Henry V over his head that ("No more division ... but a smooth unified one nation, a country that will look forward logether with confidence. We can do it, for Britain, for Wales, for all our people").
Wild cheers. Two of the taff

Spices were grilled about their views before Mr Blair sadly concluded, "you're not really very interested in politics, are you. Well, there's plenty of time." The girls turned to the

crowd, adoration shining in their eyes. "That was cracking!" they said. And it was.

#### PASS, also known as the tained schools, and claims they have failed only in getting all poof the punters had not read the litical parties to agree about script. Neil Whinnerab, from the key seat of Southport, was the cerns about the environment.

## THE CAMPAIGN

Overnight two junior ministers, John Horam and James Paice, made

overnight two jumor ministers, John Horam and James Haice, made statements against a European currency which breached the Cabinet's 'negotiate and decide' policy.

Both released penitent statements saying they supported the Cabinet policy, but they had clearly had a dressing down from the Prime Minister. Mr Major told journalists the men had been 'extremely unwise', but made it clear he would not sack them. He also announced that unemployment and the borrowing requirement had fallen, but the good news was

Earlier, Labour had launched its policy on environmental protection Earlier, Labour had launched its policy on environmental protection along with a 'five-point plan for a skills revolution'. The party's environmental protection spokesman, Michael Meacher, made a rare appearance at its morning-press conference to promise a task force to appearance at its morning-press conference to promise a task force to appearance the environment, increase awareness of it and tackle youth improve the environment, increase awareness of it and tackle youth unemployment. The response, again, was a barrage of questions on Europe.

The Liberal Democrats press conference encountered similar problems attempting to highlight plans for a levy to stop water leakage. Later, Paddy Ashdown hosted a phone-out session to voters with John Classe.

### KEY ARGUMENTS

John Major made an impassioned plea, apparently to Euro-sceptics in his own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. He had been 'scarred' by own party, on behalf of official Tory policy. Britain's departure from the Exchange Rate Mechanism and would be cautious before taking the bigger step into a single currency, he argued. To take a firm line now on the issue would be splendidly decisive. So splendidly decisive you would send a British Prime Minister naked into splendidly decisive you would send a British Prime Minister naked into splendidly decisive you would send a British Prime Minister naked into splendidly decisive, which is that conference chamber with nothing to negotiate, he said. The shadow Chancellor, said the Prime Minister's Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said the Prime Minister's statement 'sounded like a reheersal for his resignation speech. Everything statement sounded like a reheersal for his resignation speech. Everything his place in history. But, the more he went on the more he seemed like a

his place in history. But, the more he went on, the more he seemed like a

man who has lost control of events.'

Meanwhile Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, was defending the validity of the latest unemployment figures, saying 'more and more people are getting jobs and enjoying rising figures, saying 'more and more people are getting jobs and enjoying rising figures. New Labour's policies, like the national minimum wage, living standards. New Labour's policies, like the national minimum wage, would, as John Prescott rightly tells us, put millions of these jobs at risk.'



THE HURRIED VOTER'S GUIDE

Martin Bell's nomination forms were accepted yesterday, after overcoming a challenge from Neil Hamilton, who questioned Mr Bell's right

to stand under the 'independent' banner. Apart from Mr Hamilton, Mr Bell will face eight other contenders in his Tetton constituency. They include the formidabla Miss Moneypenny the Transformer (of the Miss Moneypenny's Glamorous One Party).

ONE TO REMEMBER



appailing day for John Major, who had to re-think his campaign strategy following the outbreak of feuding within the Government over Europe. Mr Major used the morning press conference to make an impassioned piea to Euro-sceptics to

toe the party line. He then decided hastily to re-shoot last night's election broadcast to focus on Europe, rather than on optimistic

#### economic news.

fichael Heseltine said that the row.over Europe was absolutely unimportant in the context of the formation of the next government and the leadership the Prime Minister will give us over the next five years". He blamed the press for hijacking the campaign by "talking about these things which the general public are quite content to see on the sidelines". "Do you know what the essence of this is? it is the genius of John Major," he said.



The man whose wife and two stepdaughters were seduced by Alan Clark has arrived in the Kensington and Chelsea constituency to campaign against him. When Clark admitted the affairs in his Dianes in 1993, James Harkess said the former minister should be horsewhipped. Today he insisted that his decision to come over from South Africa and campaign for Labour was "nothing to do with any vandetta \_ I have forgiven Alan Clark".

## THE OTHER PARTIES

Sinn Feln's senior spokesman Mitchel McLaughlin Insisted that e vote for his party was not a vote for the IRA. He said that he knew nothing of speculation that the IRA might call a ceaselire before the election. "If it happens, it happens," he said. "These are matters for the IRA – and outside the control of Sinn Fein." Meanwhile, the Scottish National Party announced that they were launching e fresh attack on Labour, unleashing e Scottie and two Westle terriers to take on Labour's buildog. "With our wee Scottie dogs we are biting back," they declared.

#### MEDIA STAR



Baroness Thatcher continued to polish her egacy, visiting the now prosperous Teesdale Park in Cleveland. Ten years ago The Independen photographed her striding across the derelict site. before vowing it would be

regenerated. Yesterday she unveiled a plaque bearing words spoken on her previous visit.

# THE TORIES OUT My vote won't change enythin<u>e</u> **GOMNECT** 0800 174 FREE Phone now for your FREE Information Pack To obtain your information pack, telephone the number above or return the response coupon below Address ..... Return to: Democratic Left, FREEPOST 6 Cynthia Street, London N1 9BR

A DEMOCRATIC LEFT CAMPAIGN

# Number of women MPs set to double

many women MPs in Parliament after the election, according to figures released last night by the Fawcett Society. As nominations for 1 May

closed, nearly 400 women were contesting seats in the election. Of those, the society helieves Ill are standing in safe con- swing, the magic 100 mark stituencies or where a swing of would be breached for the first

Louise Jury

less than eight per cent would secure them victory. This result of the Fawcett Society, said: "I would transform the Commons think that creates a critical mass." where there were 62 womeo members last time.

Women would make up around 17 per ceot of the Commons compared with 9.2 per cent of the representation during the last session.

Even with a six per ceot

which is important. One of the problems a lot of women MPs have is they need to show they can cut it as well as the men.

"Once we get more womeo in, it will be easier for them to address issues which are not seen as serious political issues at the momeot, like how we deal She said the vast majority of the Conservative benches as women were in unwinnable there were 25 womeo in the last seats. Although all parties had Parliament.

The Conservative benches as the contesting Margaret Ewing and Roseanna party needs more than an eight party needs more seats. Although all parties had trumpeted the number of female candidates they were field- candidates are fighting safe ing, what mattered was whether

they were likely to get elected.
On an eight per cent swing,
Labour will have 92 womeo
compared with 54 at present and the Tories 15 after the election. This would represent a smaller female presence on

Parliament.

Ten Tory women defending seats. Seventeen female Labour defending candidates have safe scats and another eight of its new candidates look virtually certain to win.

None of the Liberal Democraf women MPs has a safe sear - defined by the Fawcett Socithought likely to be returned.

All seven Plaid Cymru women candidates are fighting in constituencies where they oeed a swing of more than 25 per cent to get elected. The society believes two Scottish National Party will have two women after the election - defending candidates

per cent swing - although Ray Ms Stephenson said: "It will Michie in Argyll and Bute is be important that a number of women are all entering at the same time. If there is a huge chunk of women all new together, it will be easier to back

each other up."

A Labour Party spokesman said they had 90 target seats and women candidates in exactly half - as they had hoped to

achieve under the controversial all-women shortlists procedure

which was ruled illegal.

Up to 5,000 people are expected to contest the general election compared with just under 3,000 candidates in 1992. In addition to candidates for the main parties, pro-life campaigners, the Natural Law Party and the Referendum Party will be standing in many constituencies.



The theme of Baroness Thatcher's walkabout in Teesside yesterday was practically Biblical, mosaic. Tory miracles: the tiplex cinemas, fitness ceotres, marinas, bingo halls and uni-

Nearly 10 years ago, Margaret Thatcher strode, face clamped in a frown, across the rubble and scrub of Teesside's urban dereliction. Yesterday she returned to the site - where once dandelions blew about and the unlawfully tipped rubbish festered, rows of twee, red brick, gable-ended Eightlesstyle buildings have sprung up. The Teesside Development

Corporation site, claimed to be esting." The truth, however, the biggest redevelopment site was out of the bag almost at

where I stood 10 years ago," she said as if remembering vividly. "It's been transformed! Totally transformed!"

press pack's attention away from ministerial dissent on Europe, it was a bold one - and almost selfless on Lady Thatcher's part, given her own passiooate hostility to Europe.

There was a balf-bearted attempt at the start of the day to keep her involvement in the proceedings secret. At the morning press conference, John Major said coyly: "I have to catch a plane to go to Tresside for something I bope you will fied more than usually inter-

in Europe, is Lady Thatcher's once, chased vainly by Tory promise redeemed. "This is press officers. "I'm telling you that we are not allowed to give a definite confirmation for security reasons," one said. "Her people will pull her."

Lady Thatcher remained unpulled, however, and the event billed as "Lady Thatcher's Walk In The Wilderness, now a walk in the Teesside Development Corporatioo" went ahead as scheduled. For Teesside is an important, indeed a desperate,

Tory front line. To the corth is the Lake of Red , which covers all of industrial Tyne and Tees, including the constitueocies of Peter Mandelson (Hartlepool) and Tony Blair (Sedgefield). To the south are the very different realities of rural North Yorkshire. Teesside was decimated in the recession

of the early Eighties When Ivis - ter, and the former prime minbleakest spots in the region, five years ago, it was noted princiment and hard drinking.

However, Teesside is visibly a changed place and the development corporation set up after Mrs Thatcher's visit (and due to be wound up later this year) demands much of the credit.

With the media permed behind industrial strength barriers, a BBC helicopter circling overhead and a cavalcade of Range-Rovers and Jaguars, it was a visitation worthy of a living legend - only slightly spoiled by a Mirror van trucking back and forth on a nearby road pumping out the Labour campaign song. It was, in fact, a painfully ar-

tificial event: the Prime Minis-

ited Hartlepool, one of the ister padding down the road Tory flesh. They then unveiled pally for monstrous unemploy- a plaque and shovelled some dirt over an already planted and esoming cherry tree.

Lady Thatcher was mute as she has oever been mute before. Besides gasping over the transformation her walkabout had set in train, and waving to invisible crowds hovering in the air, her part was a walk-on.

"Mr Major, why don't you sack these foolish ministers?" one reporter asked repeatedly as Lady Thatcher stood, lips pursed, by his side. "Lady Thatcher would have sacked them!" Mr Major mustered an old fashioned look - as if to say, "try that once more and she'll bite your ear off".



by Aanonymous

led by ... me 🤊

It was 7.30am. Last night the BT engineer had patched a conference engmeer had parthed a conterence line into the large suite of the south coast hotel. So now the Candidate and Big Al waited for the call from headquarters. Through the hall leading to the suite's living room (virtually indistinguishable from het own at home), Wrs Candidate could be heard talking gently oo

another line to each of ber children in turn. Back in the bedroom, oewspapers lay scattered on the bed, the floor and most of the chairs; the beadlines all agreeing that the Grey Man was in deep and terrible trouble. The electronic box on the coffee table

conghed. Big Al lent forward, pressed a button and said, "Okzy, we're on", into it. "Good morning!" said friend Bobby from 60 miles away, his soft voice sounding like damp sand slipping down a children's slide, "and

what a lovely morning it is!"
Al smiled at the Candidate. The press stories of Bobby and the bull dog, plus the accompanying photographs of the spare, sharp-suited strategist rolling oo the floor with a bag-gy pooch, had been camp clas-sics. Last night they had been speculating that Bobby might hang on to the animal beyond the election, and come to the-

do - a voice of rich (if gloomy) colour. "We

live in interesting times. The Candidate went on, "Al is sure that we should feed some comment on the Grey Man's predicament into this morning's speech. There were disembodied noises of assent down the line from London: one gruff, the other sibilant. I just thought we should talk through our responses."

The main thing is that we let them stew as much as possible in their own juices," said Bob-by smoothly. "We just get on erecting our sev-en pillars and whatever — and keep to our splendid plan. When asked we sigh, and make clear how pathetic they are, how totally unfit-ted to govern etc. As far as I can see the big casualty in all this is their negative campaign: it's much harder for them to suggest what a dan-

are squabbling like this. The only peril we have to be on guard for is that they might push it so far, that they actually come out the other side a genuinely anti-Europe party. That could - as we've always known - be a problem for us. As we also know, that depends on whether Blokely goes quietly, or decides - as the most successful Tory chan-

cellor in history - to make a fuss.
"Right," said the Candidate, "What differentiates us from them is that they're a rabble led by a weed, and we're a purposive party led by ..." he paused, smiling, "... me. We're just as patriotic as them, but we're in the best po-sition to defend British interests, because

Someone grouned a small, barely audible groan. It was Mr Brown. There followed a short silence which be then broke, his voice hitting such low registers that his lis-6 They're a teoers strained to catch his words, "I just want to express rabble led by a a worry. Whenever we get a row like this inside the other weed, we're a party, the European argument

goes by default. purposive party He warned to his theme. 'All you then hear is the sound of politicians falling over one another to tell the country how

here," came a Scor's accented basso profun- etary union: then in favour, but with a referendum; then doubtful about the first wave; then doubtful in the lifetime of the next perhament But if the bloody thing happens - and i will think it will - are we are going to have painted ourselves so far into a corner that we can't

join even if we want to?" The Candidate sighed. The truth was that no ooe could see into the future. But unlike Mr Brown he could envisage life outside a single currency, if that was what the British people - his people-really wanted. Their attitudes were also a reality; in political terms they were concrete.
"Good point," he replied. "If it's in Britain's

interests we will go for it. That's the test, rather than something abstract. Britain's interests!"
"And where would that have left us in 1938?" muttered Mr Brown. But by that time the line



There's not enough vision in Blair's New Labour How will you vote?

Labour

Tve been a lifelong Labour supporter, so of course I'm pleased that we are probably on the verge of a Labour victory. I've waited too long for a change of government. And yet I'm uneasy. I don't think a Labour government is going to solve all our problems. The flaws of British society are far too fundameotal. This is partly because the public's percep-tion of politicians is so low: the knock-on effect of the receot scandals mean that politicians, you?

regardless of party, appear as tainted as each other. This results in a distressing level of

People think things are going to get instantly better, that the gap between the haves and bave-nots will be bridged. But this is not quite the case. I think change will bappen, but it will be gradual. I believe that the British public are inherently conservative. But I believe that a positive attitude towards our society means having a social-

apathy.

What issues are important to

# **HOW I WILL VOTE: ART MALIK**

We all want, and deserve, a Utopia for our future generations. If we go by what the manifestos are saying, education is the number one priority. It is vital that we educate the next generation properly, and that they are brought up with the support of a good National Health Service. But I don't think there is ecough a vision to Tony Blair's New Labour for the inequalities in society, in education and health services. to be corrected, in the short term at least.

I'm in favour of rethinking the constitutional system and the possibilities of Proportional Representation. After all, the last government was voted in by only approximately 40 per cent of the vote. But the entire system needs to be fundameotally rethought. The voting system seems an anachronism. When your MP hears the division bell after staying up in a bar for the vote, he is goaded, probably drunk, into the lobby, chosen by a select few leading

Would you consider voting Liberal Democrat?

Under the boundary changes since the last election, I now live in the borough of Richmond. Dick Tracey is my MP, and in this staunch Conservative constituency, voting for Labour is a bit like pissing in the wind. With the Liberal Democrats firmly in second place, it would be better to vote for them to make sure that the seat did not go back to the Conservatives. But I've been committed to socialism and the Labour Party for too long to not be behind them on a national basis and see them though this election.

This encapsulates my prob-lem with the voting system and this campaign in particular. Does it really matter how I vote at all? After all, the important thing is not how you vote, but

what happens after. Are there any politicians you

admire? I canoot think of any politician alive who I really admire. They all lack an overall vision. unlike people like Gbandi wbo I greatly respect. Tony Blair may claim he has a visioo but I simply don't believe it. Whilst reading last week's reports of each

couldn't see an overall structure to any of them. All we get is the work of the spin doctors with their soundhites.

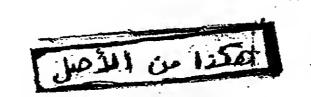
When did you first become interested in politics?

When I was about 14, living in the Tory heartland of Wandsworth. I got involved with Geoffrey Robinson, who lived just over the road and was my friend's clder brother. It was the end of the Sixties and we were faced with a country in a terrible state - the miners' striking, the three-day working

week, the National Front. Interview by Sam Coates



Road holding not by quattro.



For information on models with quattro call 0345 699 777.

# uble Jobs news fails to deflect Euro row

Diane Coyle and Fran Abrams

the first of the f

and the second of the second o

The Contract W. Rite Resp.

and the to the last

e la transport of the financial

they or report their

SA at Said Comments

and a membrand

nts Ing. mil. 18.

known carriers

Administration thanks

Martin a married

Acres Commence

prida in white white

Medical Comment

Attack proming pages

a Robert Manners for

Marine Street Chineses.

gardness are excepted

Law that he

in the contract of submit

Self-frankling and brigger

The Wall of the William

And the result through

After Flore to a magnetic

Maria Santa Santa Cata

aggregation of the discount

Spire to the first states

and the first of a company to

manager of probability

Applications of the party Manager of the Control of Marie 5

· Latin - Latin de F

time to an probability

事務 经一次 化化化化学

خاصط و دروان المرواضية

\$1.46 CO NO. 150 OF

Act Brown West Indiana and the state of the st

Page 1 to the time than

1.00 Sept. 15

filing to West billion to the way of the billion to the way of the

The economic news favoured the Conservatives once again. Goverument borrowing last year was well below the Budget target, while last month brought another big drop in the number of peo-ple claiming unemployment ben-

efit, according to official figures. The jobs figures reflected the booming economy. The head-line unemployment rate fell to 6.1 per cent, the lowest for six years. Employment climbed by 135,000 in the three months to February, with just over half of it full-time.

More women are in work than ever before, now ac-counting for more than twofifths of the workforce. But male participation in work has continued to decline.

Paul Gregg, a researcher at the London School of Eco-nomics, said: "Women will overtake men in the early years of the next century. We will have a female-dominated labour force overseen by male managers."

The latest fall in unemploymeot figures was at the centre of a dispute yesterday after oppositioo parties claimed a government report showed that large sections of the population were being left out of its calculations. As official figures recorded the number of people out of work and claiming benefit falling by 41,100 to 1,707,000 last month, Labour and the Liberal Democrats said many

young people, women and old-er men had been excluded. The Prime Minister had clearly hoped that the optimistic figures would divert attention from the row over Europe. However, the news at-tracted so little attention at

peatedly whether anyone wanted to question him on it.

When he was finally asked about unemployment, the emphasis was on the dispute over how the figures were compiled. In its application for European Social Fund grants to tackle long-term unemployment last December, the Government suggested that levels among young people, women and older men were understated in its official figures. Those seeking work but not immediately available were also excluded.

Gillian Shephard, the Secrelary of State for Education and Employment, said countries were allowed to submit claimant figures plus information on oth-

er measures such as disability. Labour's treasury spokes man, Alistair Darling, said the remark amounted to an admission that the government's figures did not tell the whole story. The Government should now come clean and admit in public what they are saying in private, that the claimant count does not reflect the real level of unemployment," he said.

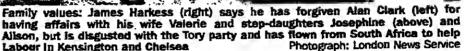
Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat employment spokesman, said that in addition to those who were out of work but off the figures, there were also many people on low pay, short-term contracts or in insecure jobs. Kenneth Clarke seized on the

the gap between spending and revenues was £22.8bn, £3.6bn below his target for 1996/97. The Chancellor said this was "evi-dence of the healthy state of Britain's public finances".

The figures were better thanforecast thanks to below-target spending and higher tax revenues. The sale of the Ministry of Delence married quarters and the student loan book trimmed









# Husband on moral mission against Clark Harkess joins Labour on Kensington doorsteps, reports Clare Garner

The coven has come back to haunt Alan Clark, His campaign to win safe Kensington and Cheisea in west London may not be the comfortable ride he

was hoping for.

James Harkess, whose wife and two step-daughters were seduced by the former defence minister, is on a "moral mission" to carvass for Mr Clark's Labour opponent.

Mr Harkess, a barrister and

former judge, has flown half way round the world to campaign oo behalf of Robert Atkinson, the Labour Party candidate in Kensington and

The last time Mr Harkess soo regularly in the run-up to ame to Britain from his home the general election. His wife, came to Britain from his home Valerie, 59, was due to join him in South Africa was in May 1994

when he told the News of the in Britain yesterday. World that Mr Clark deserved "Clark is a man unsuitable for to be "horsewhipped" for baving a simultaneous affair with his wife and her daughters Al-ison, 39, and Josephine, 37. In his memoirs, Mr Clark described the three womeo as

This time he is spreading his message door-to-door. He has Although he briefly supported the Labour Party as a already been out canvassing with 91-year-old Lord Longford teenager, Mr Harkess, 67, bas otherwise heep a lifelone yesterday's Tory party news £1.4bu from expenditure. "Tory sleaze "!" and intends to join Mr Atkin- Tory. He even stood as a Con-

servative candidate for Brixton io south London in the 1970 election, declaring himself a supporter of Enoch

Powell's position oo immigration. politics," said Mr Harkess. "It's Mr Harkess denies that he is his dishonesty as well as his sexwreaking revenge on his old ri-val. "This is nothing to do with ual peccadilloes," he added. "I think I should be able to say what I believe and try to stop any vendetta or anything of that that which is ugly, dishonest and kind," he said. "I don't believe in veodettas. I have forgiven

Alan Clark.

I think is wrong. And one of the things I think is very right - and I want to be positive not negative - is what Tony Blair is doing in the oext two weeks in order to become Prime Minister of this country."

He is, he says, disgusted with the Conservative Party. "It's the whole question of trust, honind," he said. "I don't believe on veodettas. I have forgiven dan Clark."

He added: "That doesn't were about 30 Conservatives mean that I don't have a right who "could be lahelled sleaze

"What is bringing the election election now."

down is that there is too much sleaze going on in the Conservarive Party," he said. "There is something very wrong with the state of the country when the Prime Minister cannot do anything about that and put it

Mr Clark said yesterday: "He [Harkess] says he has forgiveo me. Well, that's very generous of him and very Christian of him. I have expressed contrition the last time this was raised four years ago and the episode is 20 years old.

"I don't like talking about it. It's very, very old. It really is his-

# Free Camera



Free Boots Single use camera when you buy any two from a selection of vitamins, minerals and supplements

Seven Seas Action Plan 50+ Energy Formula 50 capsules £6.99 Sanatogen Gold 30 Tablets £3.69 Boots Evening Primrose Oil 250mg 60 capsules £4.69 Seven Seas High Strength Pure Cod Liver Oil 60 capsules £4.45



The Right Chemistry

http://www.bocts.co.ok is most Books stores until 13th May 1997. Subject to a

## DIRECT LINE INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNT

saving up for a holiday, conservatory or even a big wedding? You can save yourself the trouble of looking for better rates.

	£1- £4,999	£5,000- £9,999	£10,000- £24,999	£25,000- £49,999	£50,000- £99,999	£100,000+
Direct Line Instant Access Account	6.60%	6.00%	5.60%	5.75%	6.00%	6.10%
Halifax Bonus Gold (60 Day Notice)	N/A	N/A	4.65%	4.90%	5.05%	5.35%
Woolwich Premier 90 (90 Day Notice)	N/A	3.50%	4.20%	4.80%	5.10%	5.90% <sup>††</sup>
Nationwide Capitalbuilder 90 Day	4.00% <sup>†</sup>	4.30%	4.50%	4.80%	5.10%	5.10%

· Whatever you're saving for you'll get it quicker it you save with

Especially since our rates have recently risen again.

 And with Direct Line you get instant acress to your money as well as higher rates.

 The more savings you have the higher our rates get. · You can pool your savings with family or friends for even

higher returns.

· So make the most of your savings, move them to Direct Line.

0181 667 1121 LONDON

0161 833 1121

0141 221 1121

**MANCHESTER GLASGOW** 

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. IND63 www.directline.co.uk • ITV Teletext page 377. A Royal Bank of Scotland company.

Savings are provided by Direct Line Fixancial Services Limited, 250 St. Vincent Street, Glargow, G2 5514, which is a man of the Deposit Protection Scheme established under the Banklog Act 1987 (at amended). Payments under the scheme are limited to 90% of a depositor's total deposits subject to a maximum payment to any one depositor of £18,000 (or ECU 20,000 if greater). Further details of the Scheme are available on request. The gross rate is the rate paid without the deduction of income tax. All rates shown are subject to variation and are based on annual payment of interest. For your added security to ay be received and the recording kept secure. We may also manker telephone calls with the aim of improve you. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are the trademarks of Direct Line insurance pic and used with its permission

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Tony Blair yesterday offered to create a decent society founded on "the seven pillars of security", the basic huilding hlocks of Labour policy.

In a lecture in Southampton, the Labour leader deliberately set out his positive policy stall, as an alternative to the personal attacks and negative campaigning of the Tories.

But that did not stop him contrasting the political stances of the two parties - and portraying the Conservatives in a highly negative light.

After 18 years of Conservative government," he said, "Britain is more divided and less equal than at any time since the

"It will be a new Labour government's task to rehuild Britain as one nation, where every individual has a stake in its future, where we treat poverty and unemployment not as problems we shut out or ignore, but as intolerable in any decent society true to the best of British

The Conservatives say: choose between self-interest and the good of society. I say any sensible view of self-interest recognises that the stronger, more unified a society is, the better for the individuals within it.

"More than that, we cannot confront and overcome the problems of health, schools, action on unemployment. security in old age - as well as new problems like environmental degradation - unless we face the challenges together.

This is the case for collective action: Britain cannot be one nation unless it is prepared to act as one nation.

"As leader of the Labour Party I have made it my goal to create a decent society based on security for all in a world of

"It is that decent society that the Tories are incapable of creating. They believe number one was offering, instead, "seven comes first in all things.

"They believe inequality is a sign of success. They see insecurity as the only spur to activity. So they denigrate the things that we hold in common - the health service, the basic pension, public education." Mr Blair said that a few at the

top were well-off and secure, but there was an insecure majority and a large and anxious group in the middle. If the election was to be

record, and on what they offered, people would he appalled and terrified. Terrified at their abolition of

the state pension; terrified at their plans to strangle the health service; terrified at the prospect of a growing Tory 'underclass'; terrified at the idea of four out of five schools being turned into secondary moderns; terrified at the idea that Britain cannot be better than this." The Labour leader said he

pillars of security in a world of change: A world class education system; a modern, comprehensive NHS with the peace of mind that comes from knowing it will be there when you need it; security and dignity in retirement; freedom from the fear of crime and security in our communities; quality housing; a welfare state that promotes independence; and strong social institutions - from the family upwards - that promote fought on the Conservative mutual responsibility and a record, and on what they spirit of public and voluntary

He concluded: "Together, you and I will begin to build the new society, a society in which each of us has the chance to grow, to achieve, to contribute, to create dignity for ourselves, and not for ourselves alone, but for others also; a society in which each of us has a stake, a share; and we will give back to our children what they deserve a heritage of hope.

Busy days: Tim Deviln trying to catch votes, and an escaped dog Photograph: Tom Pilston

# Bell beats off last ditch bid by Hamilton to stop him

Jojo Moyes

The battle for the hearts and hallot slips of Tatton's voters ionk another had-tempered twist yesterday when the Tory candidate Neil Hamilton launched a last-ditch attempt to scupper the electoral chances of his rival, Martin Bell, by lodg-ing an objection over Mr Bell's use of the word "independent". Along with nine other can-

didates, Mr Bell had his nomination formally accepted yesterday, describing himself as an Independent. He had planned to describe himself as Independent Anti-Corruption", but withdrew the words "anti-corruption" following the threat of legal action.

Speaking after his nomination was accepted, Mr Bell, who was proposed by former Tory councillor Laurence Hobday, said that his title was

Independent, but everyone knows it's on an anti-corruption

As he formally launched his election campaign with a walkabout in Alderley Edge, in Cheshire, he revealed that he was also being supported by two former mayors, one Labour and one Liberal Democrat, two war veterans and an England cricketer. "He's going to teach me to deal with the houncers that may be coming my way, Mr Bell said.

The first came just hours later, with the news that Mr. Hamilton's agent had launched a formal objection to Mr Bell's description of himself as Independent.

"Bell is not an independent candidate. He is a stooge of the Labour Party with Liberal support," Mr Hamilton said. "I call on him to withdraw his nomi-

voters a real choice between po-But the acting returning of-

ficer, chief executive of Macclesfield Borough Council, Brian Longden, rejected the complaint by Mr Hamilton, the former minister at the centre of the cash-for-questions row. A. Independent. spokesman said: "The acting returning officer has replied to say he cannot accept the objection as valid. Martin Bell's nomination is valid.

Mr Bell described the attempt as "a desperate effort by a desperate man", "I was nom-inated by a Conservative councillor ... so Mr. Hamilton cannot claim that my nomination was anything other than to-tally cross-party," he said. As the list of candidates was

closed at 4 pm yesterday, there initially appeared to have been another twist, with the de-

irrelevant, "I'm standing as an nation papers and allow Tatton's scription of candidate Simon Kinsley as an "Independent Conservative

But just half an hour later, rather emharrassed spokesman for the council admitted that the description had been a mistake, and that the candidate was, in fact, simply

Other candidates standing in Tatton are: David Laurence Bishop, Lord Byro v The Scallywag Tories Party; Sam Hill, Independent candidate; Michael Paul Kennedy, Natural Law Party; Simon Lowther Kinsey, Independent candidate; John Richard Muir, Albion Party; Ralph Nicholas, Independent candidate; Burnel Craig Penhaul, commonly known as Miss Money Penny the Transformer Miss Money Penny's Glamourous One Party; and Julian Matthew Price, Juice Party.

# Teesside seat could spring a surprise

Tim Devlin is mildly displeased. A local bookmaker has just made him the narrow favourite to hold on to his marginal scat of Stockton South, a rare Tory foothold in the North-east.

"I think I prefer it when people are doing me down as the underdog," explained Mr Devlin, husy door-knocking in a key ward. But it is not unexpected. "I suppose I have a track record for surprising results."

Clinging on to his majority of 3,369 would certainly be surprising. The Teesside constituency is one of 90 "must win" seats for Labour, and at 64th on the list and according to the list according to the list and according to the list according to the list according to the list and according to the list accord the list and according to form and party analysis, a win here would give Tony Blair's party a small overall majority.

Mr Devlin, whose narrow trend-bucking ousting of the So-cial Democrats' Ian Wrig-glesworth in 1987 made him the youngest Tory MP at 27, is un-daunted. Cheerily shaking the hand of each voter who crossed his path, the former barrister seemed remarkably relaxed about being written off as a Tory loss as he shepherded his canvassing team around the houses. "We have heard it all before

and we have fought back."
His campaign themes are notably local issues, He claims that even Labour voters regard him as an approachable MP and points to his encouragement of the use of closed-circuit television and "zero tolerance" policing which has cut crime in the area. Traditional Labour voters, he

It says something

about the manage-

ment of the Conser

vative Party at the

present time that

Michael Streeter reports from a Tory enclave in Labour's

Blair's new Labour and he thinks their abstentions could help him win. With his wife, Carol, he gleefully recalls the reaction of Labour voters on the doorstep.

"One person said, Twe been waiting 18 years to get rid of you effing bs, now I find the other effing bs are just the same."

Much of the chat in the crowd-

ed terrace house that is the election headquarters is light-hearted and domestic - of their two dogs and the lambs on their six-acre smallholding. The proper-ty fits well with the southern part of the constituency where pretty towns such as Yarm show signs of considerable wealth. In contrast, some areas of the decaying industrial Stockton suffer male unemployment of up to 30 per

cent and massive depravation. So far his campaign against So far his campaign against Labour's Dari Taylor has been relatively civil, though he informed *The Independent* that Ms Taylor had been "parachuted" in by her party, and had been given a new Labour "makeover". He declared: "She has a new

hairdo and wears suits.". His own career is not without criticism. In 1994 he was removed as a ministerial aide, claiming that he left because of local defence cuts. Whips said he was sacked for "general inbelieves, are unhappy with Mr effectiveness", although a year

later he was given a similar post.

Ms Taylor dismisses the per-sonal criticism of her as "silly" but recognises that she has a real light ahead to take the seat. She accepts that many of the undetarget territory cided voters - around 25 per cent of the electorate - will fall back to the Torics, but she is confident that enough will switch or stay at home to give her the 3.9 per cent swing she needs to win.

There is everything to play for and this is a critical seat. All eyes will be on us [at the election]."

The daughter of the former Labour MP for Burnley, Daniel Jones, Welsh-born Ms Taylor whose campaign is sponsored by the GMB general workers' union - detects a mood of an-ticipation in the seat. But she concedes that trust in all polidcians to carry out their promises is low. "People won't change, I know that. We are going to have to prove that they can trust us. Winning the election is go-ing to be the easy part." Already she feels that she has

Mr Devlin on the run over schools' funding and a controversial plan to build a watersports centre on a tranquil spot on the Tees, to which Mr Devlin appeared to give initial backing. The Liberal Democrats also

believe they see signs of move-ment to them by both disenchanted Tories and "betrayed" Labour supporters. However most observers believe their candidate, Peter Monck, who works for a funeral company, will do well to maintain their 1992 vote of less than 10,000.

MEDIA WATCH **Jobless** ousted favour of single Euro currency

Paul McCann Media Correspondent

The Conservative Party's election broadcast schedule was scrapped yesterday so that the Prime Minister could deal with the splits on Europe that are damaging the party.

A film made by the Tories

advertising agency, M&C Saatchi, about the economy and falling unemployment, was due to be hroadcast last night to coincide with yesterday's release of the latest unemployment figures. Instead Mr Major decided to

record a personal message on camera to explain his "wait and see policy on Britain's entry to a single European Currency.
The film was made in less

than an hour in the party's London headquarters by a film crew from M&C Saatchi. The message was a version of

the impassioned statement Mr Major made to journalists earlier at the party's morning press conference.

Aides claimed the hred-up

Prime Minister recorded the address in one take, un-rehearsed and without the benefit of notes. The five minute film is likely to have cost the party much less than the £250,000 spent on its famous "Return to Brixton" film in

. It is not known if the party will re-schedule the film on unemployment.
The Torics are estimated to

have spent £2m making five election broadcasts during the 1992 general election. Labour, which uses volunteer directors as well as professionals at its advertising agency BMP DDB, is likely to spend around £200,000 on its five films for this cam-

paign.

Making the new broadcast delayed the Prime Minister's trip to Stockton-on-Tees to meet Baroness Thatcher for a photo

opportunity.
The Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mail are trying to create an alternative election platform for the Conservative Party

With

Cash GM

you cou

to £6,00

based on opposition to a
European single currency.
Tuesday's Mail used John
Major's visit to disgruntled fishermen in Newlyn as a hook to
declare a "Battle for Britain" on
its front trace. Incide the new its front page. Inside the news-paper published photographs and names of 76 Tory candidates opposed to a single currency. It also published a "Battle for Britain Hotline" number for candidates to fax through their election addresses.

The Mail's first and second editions yesterday, when ministers John Horam and James Paice were unearthed as opposing government policy, illuminated its attitude to the issue. The Mail believes it does the Tories more good to he seen as anti-EU than harm to be seen as divided on the issue.

It scrapped its early front page story about trade unions
- "Lahour's bully boys are back" - in favour of "Europe: The great revolt". Inside it printed another 66 photographs of Tory dissenters and a list of 140 candidates who now oppose

the single currency.

The Telegraph must have felt suitably miffed. It started writing to Tory candidates at the end of last week to ask for their elec-Uon addresses. Only yesterday did it manage to print the po-sitions of 117 candidates whose election addresses it had re-ceived. Only 52 of the Telegraph's candidates were explicitly opposed to the single currency, but even without the inducement of a photograph, more addresses were being received by the newspaper last

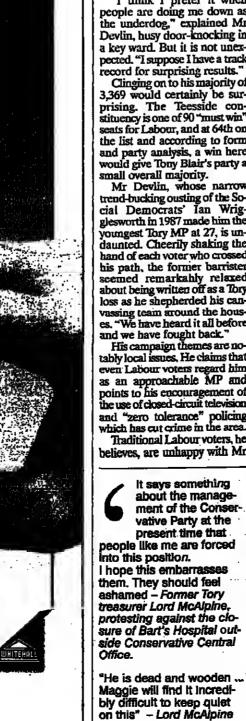
on the Conservative Euro-

"It's no good trotting out the bulldogs if you are go-ing to be a French poodle" - Michael Forsyth

know what Lady Thatcher's election address would say if she were still publishing

palgn spokesman Brian Wilson





QUOTES OF THE DAY

on John Major's 'wait and

"It was perfectly clear, that when the unity of slience had been shattered ... that the people would wake up and would no longer tolerate the lies that were being told to them"

- Sir James Goldsmith on

Conservative Euro-splits "We will see how they

handle but the new ones are lighter and easier, especisly for female staff ... we are keeping our old polling booths even though one does have a bit of greffitl saying 'Vote Chamberlain'."

Devon Electoral Officer Peter Smith on the new plastic ballot boxes.

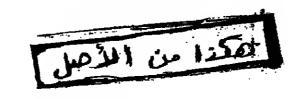
"Do you know what the essence of this is? It is the genius of John Major who has kept these options open" - Michael Heseltine

pean currency debate

"It would be interesting to

- Lebour Party cam-

Compiled by Ben Summers



MY IT APPRIL TO

McCann

representation of the

Burgation of the lines.

Continue of decoration

period Section 1.

Alexander of

ha gradicino

Carry

# Shires at stake in the poll that parties forgot

Voters across the shires of Eogland might not yet have regis-tered the fact, but on 1 May they will have two ballots to cast.

Parallel to the general election, some 3,300 seats in county and new unitary councils are being contested. So far the silence has been deafening. Party headquarters have been largely indifferent. Yet oo the result hangs cootrol of England's biggest education authorities and, depending on swing, who runs the oewly formed Local Government Association.

The local hope is that voters will distinguish between the performance of councillors and MPs bearing the same party label. The leader of Bedfordshire Tories, Philip Hendry, reports doorstep conversations to the effect you will get my vote but your party certainly will oot. The Liberal Democrat leader, Nick Hills, agrees. "The headline poll figures ignore regiocal and local voting

Elections take place on 1 May in 35 English shire counties and 19 new unitary councils. Some 3,200 seats are up for grabs, in addi-tion a third of the seats on the Kingston upon.

Hull and Bristol city councils are being con-tested and all 42 seats on Malvern Hill district

council. In some areas there are individual by-

elections caused by death and resignations.

Polling hours have been extended to match those for the parliamentary elections (7am for 10pm); Local ballot papers will be a different colour but will be put into the same box as parliamentary votes. In most areas counting will not begin until the morning of Fidaly 2.

May and results for million by the declared.

May and results are unlikely to be declared before Friday afternoon.

The last county elections were in 1993 but since their Avon Cleveland, Humberside and Berkshire have been abolished, Rutland and the late of Wight have become unitary county.

cils and several have shrunk in size as a re-

sult of the creation of new unitary districts inside them. The new unitaries up and run-

ning include Poole, Portsmouth, Bristol. \*\*\*
Brighton and Boumemouth. The last letteche

intentions," he said,

were in 1993, wheo Labour facing his successor - if there is and the Liberal Democrats swept a majority of previously Tory councils into the "no overall controls category. Conventional wisdom says the Tory position should improve – but that depends on whether

national swings apply locally. Councillors admit the public is often confused about who is actually in control of county hall. In Bedfordshire no single party has had a majority since the early Eighties. Arithmetic there is further complicated by the fact this is the first election since Lutoo was excised from the county. The car-making town is now a "unitary" - it runs its own education and social services separate from the county.

Stakes are high in neighbouring Oxfordshire where all three parties assented to a 1997-98 budget some £6m in excess of the Government's limit, In a fit of pre-election funk the Secretary of State for the Environment, John Gummer, postponed his decisioo on whether to veto it and insist new council tax demands The last county elections were issued for a lower figure. "Mr Doi
This is one of the first decisions patient."

Casting your vote in the county elections

Oxfordshire's Liberal Democrat leader Dermot Roaf is hoping for a rash of tactical voting, with people splitting their tickets in order to oust the county's Tory MPs.

Comparison with past voting is made more difficult in areas such as Blackburn where elections are taking place oo new boundaries for a new kind of council. In Blackburn, till now a district of Lancashire, voters are being asked to choose the members of a new unitary, Blackburn with Darwen. Labour was solidly in charge

of the old Blackburn and its leader Malcolm Doberty says he is happy to fight on its record, including a 9 per ceot increase in council tax this year. But Labour strength on Lancashire county may be affected by the loss of Blackburn and Blackpool, also a new unitary.

Would a new Labour Blackburn be demanding extra grants from a new Labour government? "We have oo illusions "Mr Doherty said, "we will be

year and it is for their 'shadow' councils that elections take place on 1 May.

During the year to come existing county councillors for such towns as Peterborough,

councitions for such towns as Peterborough,
Warrington and Nottingham will continue in
office, but will not be allowed to vote on counity issues. On 1 April next year the existing
Hereford and Worcester, county splits into a
limitary Herefordshire and a new two-lier
county of Worcestershire.
County of Worcestershire.
Rounty Councils (current status):
No Overall Control: Bads, Cembs, Cheshire, Cumbria, Devon, East Sussex, Essex, Glouca, Hants,
Hereford and Worcester, Here, Kent, Lake, Lines,
Norfolk, North Yorks, Otton, Shropehire, Suffolk, Suring, Warles, West Sussex, Wills
Labour, Control, Staffs, Notts, Northumberland,
Nodinants, Danies, Durham and Derbyshire.

Linbour Control: Statis, Notts, Northumberland, Notificants, Dirties, Durham and Derbyshire.

Liberal Despons Control: Commell, Dosset and Somerast.

Conservative Control: Bucks.

New Uniting Councils where elections are taking places. Bracking Freet, Newbury, Heading, Sloogh, Windsor & Medicinhead, Wokingham, Peterborough, Hellon, Warmington, Physicistr, Gillingtsan/Flockster, Sec, Thurock Nereloxishire, Gillingtsan/Flockster, Blackpool Nottingham, The Wireloxishire, Blackpool Nottingham, The Wireloxishire.



Trailblazer: The film director, Sir Richard Attenborough, driving to the hustings at Hebden Bridge. West Yorkshire, yesterday in an open top 1922 Morris tourer. He was in the constituency to give his backing to the Labour candidate, Chris McCafferty Photograph: Justin Slee/Gurelian

#### **AROUND THE REGIONS**

# Rutland whizz too fast for country lanes

It would take a political upheaval of cataclysmic proportions to see any other than a Conservative member returned

for Rutland and Meltoo. In 1992 Alan Duncan was returned with a 41 per cent majority over Labour and, realistically, the main event this time round remains the fight for secood place, with the details of Mr Duncan's reduced majority as so interesting

sideshow. Both the UK Independence Party and the Referendum Party promise candidates, and the Liberal Democrats have a popular and well-known prospect in 29-year-old Kim Lee, who can be ex-pected to pull in a high personal vote, especially in his oative Rutland where he is deputy leader of the oewly creat-

Rutland Times icant factor in the final voting figures not least in Alan Duncan's. An oil trader and self-made millionaire, although he strongly denies claims that he is the 50th richest mao in Britain, Mr Duncan, 40, is razor-sharp clever, and as ambitious as one might expect from someone with such

and diligently keeps up with dress codes. but he is not a hit with many traditional shire Tories and their wives The memory of a tabloid attack a couple of years ago over the residence he

a glowing Thatcherite curriculum vitae.

He swaps his city Jaguar for a Range

Rover when he comes to the constituency

despite the fact that his fortune was entirely respectably made, some still eye him askance. In fact, he is one of the per cent. more intellectual members of the Tors right. Being both rich and bright in interesting new ways is not quite the thing in Rutland and Meltoo, however. The Labour contender John Meads, whose has a white-collar trade unioo background, will have trouble keeping Kim Lee at bay. Redrawn constituency boundaries have lost Labour votes from a substantial chunk of suburban Leices-

true-blue farming country. ed county council and regularly tops the polls in local authority elections.

acquired a step away from Parliament under the council house right-to-buy for country living combine with what rel-Left-leaning professionals with a taste polls in local authority elections.

polls in local authority elections.

polls in local authority elections.

Personalities will certainly be a signifscheme still lingers in some minds. And atively few traditional working-class

Labour voters there are - mostly in Melton - to give M1 Meads his voting base. Notionally, Labour's 1992 share of the vote under the new boundaries was to per cent, against the Liberal Democrats' 21 per cent and the Tories' 61

Apart from the Duncan factor, the other issue likely to sway votes is undoubtedly Europe.

Rutland businessman, Roger Heath, who has had his ups and downs under the Conservatives, voices a typical doorstep attitude when he says: "Duncan's going to win, isn't he?

"I might put io a protest vote by go-ing for the Referendum Party. It's down ter, now replaced by a further stretch of to what I feel like on the day. But probably I won t."

> Mel Price. Editor The Rutland Times

With a TSB **Cash Gift Mortgage** you could get up to £6,000 to spend as you like.

If you need a mortgage, be totally sensible and come to TSB. You could get a cash gift of up to £6,000, enough to make your new home look like a million dollars.

Call TSB PhoneBank to find out more or to get a free quotation. Alternatively, you can call into a TSB branch.

Call free quoting 0500 758 000

## Mortgages

TSB We wrent you to say MES

Typical example; an existing TSS mortgage customer who is moving and taking out a new £40,000 mortgage on a property priced at £50,000. 300 mortgage interest payments are £214.48 of TSBe standard veriable rate, currently 7.25% (APR 2.5%). The rotal gross amount payable is £113.022. It is assumed that interest payments are £214.48 of TSBe standard veriable rate, currently 7.25% (APR 2.5%). The rotal gross amount payable is £113.042. It is assumed that interest property Plus. TSB MergageStire, TSB Homebuyers Plan and a Cast Gift of £1,200 have been taken, highest to status on Endowment Repayment valuation fee £90. Tax rated at 15% on £90,000 is assumed. The monthly endowment premium is £51.46. Available subject to status on Endowment Repayment the promision basis. Mirmount toom to qualify for Cash Gift is £15,001. TSB Homebuyers Plan as a until linked qualifying endowment policy (alease remember the promision basis. Mirmount toom to qualify for Cash Gift is £15,001. TSB Homebuyers Plan are available from TSB Lile Limited, Charlon Place, value of units can go down as used as up and is not guaranteed). Full details of the TSB Homebuyers Plan are available from TSB Lile Limited, Charlon Place, value of units can go down as used as up and is not guaranteed. Full details of the TSB Homebuyers Plan are available from TSB incorpage. And/over, Hampstries SP10 1 RE. The Cash Gift must be repeat on a proportionate basis. Assignment/assignation of a sustable life policy may be accused by the Andover, Hampetine SP10 1RE. The Cash Giff must be repeat if within the first tive years the mortgage is redecimed or converted to another TSB mortgage. If the lean is partly redecimed, the Cash Giff must be repeat on a proportionate bears. Assignment/essignation of a sustable list be required by the Bank as security. A TSB dequis account is required. Applicants must be aged 18 or over, All leans subject to status. Not available in the Channel Islands. Bank as security, A TSB dequis account is required. Applicants must be aged 18 or over, All leans subject to status. Not available in the Channel Islands. Sociation plot are Written quotations are available on request by calling 0500 758 000. Calls may be recorded and monetoned. TSB Bank place and TSB Bank placed by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, and trusts and offered in the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, with trusts and offered in the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, unit trusts and offered in the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, unit trusts and offered in the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, unit trusts and offered in the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, unit trusts and trusts are required to the TSB Marketing Group which as regulated by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons, unit trusts and trusts are required to the TSB Marketing Group which as required to the TSB and the TSB life insurance, persons are required by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons are required by the Possonal Investment Authority only for TSB life insurance, persons are required by

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IS YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT

Survey Undertaken by NOP Market Research among 1,000 randomly selected bank customers, interviews were conducted by telephone between 20 Nov 1976 and 12 Dec 1986. Enquires must be aged 18 or over in order to saleguard our customers, certain transactions may require written confirmation. First Direct reserves the high to decline to open an account for you. First Direct credit factations are subject to status. For written details of our services write to First Direct. Freepost. Levels L599 296 First Direct is a division of Middand Back pia. Calls may be monitioned and/or recorded. LL0YDS Cheque Account details are based on the Classic Account. The costs comprise fees of 25 per month. BARICLAYS Cheque Account details are based on the Current Plus Account. The costs comprise fees of 25 per month. Nat WEST Cheque Account details are based on the Current Plus Account. The costs comprise fees of 25 per month. All fees may vary in the future. First Direct variable interest rate for exertails up to 2250 is 12.6% EAR, All information based on authorised overdrafts of 5 days or more per month and correct at 11 March 1997

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\*\*

\*\*Marchart HSBC\* Free from charges

# Banking with First Direct is free because we do not

charge Chague Account customers for everyday banking transactions, even if you're overdrawn. And all our customers automatically receive an overdraft up to \$250 - also free of any fees. So compared to other high street bank accounts you're better off with First Direct from day one. We're a member of the HSBC Group which is one of the largest banking and financial services organisations in the world, and in the course of a year you'll find we offer more cost effective current account banking. And the service we provide means you benefit in many other ways too.

#### By telephone, 24 hours a day

We provide the ultimate in convenience. You can bank with us at any time, 365 days (and nights) of the year, from wherever there's e telephone, in your home, office or car. And all UK calls are charged at local rates.

#### Personal and professional service

Every call is answered by our Banking Representatives. They have all they need at their fingertips to deal with your day-to-day banking needs. And when you require more specialised assistance, such as a loan, they can instantly refer you to someone who can help.

#### Getting cash is easy



Every Cheque Account customer receives the First Direct Card, This allows you to withdraw up to £500 a day from over 11,500 cash machines around the UK, including those of Midland. It elso guarantees cheques for £100 and includes the Switch payment facility.

#### So is paying bills

Our service includes a free bill payment service. Simply call, tell us who to pay, how much and when, and we do it. This means you can arrange to pay your bills at the most convenient time without the need to keep having to remember to organise it.

#### A full banking service with more benefits As well as our Cheque Account we offer saving, borrowing, travel and

insurance services cost effectively by telephone. Take saving: our rates are always competitive, we offer transfers to and from your Cheque Account. So your money is always working hard without the need for you to do the same.

We work hard to maintain the service

The best people to demonstrate the quality of a banking serv are its customers - 87%° of ours have recommended us to the friends and colleagues in the last 12 months.

#### Opening an account is easy too

We also eppreciate how daunting changing bank accounts can So we make it easy. Easy to open e First Direct account, then ex to arrange for your salary to be paid in and easy for all your standing orders and direct debits to be transferred to your account. And it's easy (and free) to find out more right now. Call us on 0800 24 24 24 or complete the coupon.



Why pay to

	ĺ
Call free or complete the coupon and post to:	
First Direct, FREEPOST, Leeds LS98 2RF	
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms or Title	
Surname	

ice	Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms or Titte
	Surname
	Forename(s)
3	UK Address
be.	11   12   13   14   15   15   16   17   17   17   17   17   17   17
BSy	earpe plane i matematica de la company de
' حد:	

# The German MEP, her Turkish rival and the polygamist





Double standards: Claudia Roth, left, who heads the Greens in the European Parliament took on Turkish foreign minister Tansu Cilier, right, this week in a clash on the topic of polygamy and the bigamy of a minister in the Turkish government Photographs: AP

Christopher de Bellaigue

Claudia Roth is not afraid to ask particularly tricky one to Tansu Ciller, Turke, 's loreign minister, this week, How, Ms Roth wanted to know, could Ms Ciller spic herself the champi-member of Turkey's ruling Wel-

on of Turkish women, and con-tinue to sit in cahinet alongside fare Party – has two wives. Ms Ciller and Ms Roth had met at a minister who was a higamist? Ms Roth, who heads the tough questions. She posed a Greens inside the European Parliament, had done her homework. She was pre-armed with the knowledge that

a get-together of European parliamentarians in Ankara. Such meetings have often been the source of acrimony over the last few months, as Turkey takes Europe to task for failing to make good on its promises to

who was making the accusations of double standards - a charge which Turks often level at the European Unioo itself - and it did not go down well. "We have respect for our

friends," was the foreign minister's testy response, "but once they begin interfering in our in-

This is not the first time that the redoubtable Ms Roth has dicelebrity in Turkey was first assured when an uncouth minister called her a whore. Dealings with Ms Ciller, who leads Wel-

ternal affairs, they exceed their fare's True Path Party coalition rous, but rarely easy.

But this time she was right on rected penetrating questions target. By marrying twice - the at Turkish politicians; her first time with the sanction of the state, the second with that of an imam, or Muslim priest -Mr Altinsoy was hreaking Turk-ish law, although his parlia-

mentary immunity protects him from prosecution. Polygamy was banned by Kemal Ataturk. modern Turkey's founding fa-ther, along with other Islamic practices considered too regressive for a modern republic. But if you ask Turks how many polygamists there are inside Turkey's increasingly Islamic

hued parliament, you might get a cryptic look. For understandable reasons, the Turkish press has preferred not to "out" political polyga-mists, for which - like the rest of Tirrkey - no official figures exist. The practice is more common in the depressed southeast, which was largely left to its own devices while the rest of Turkey emharked oo ambitious development. Children from additional marriages - Islam

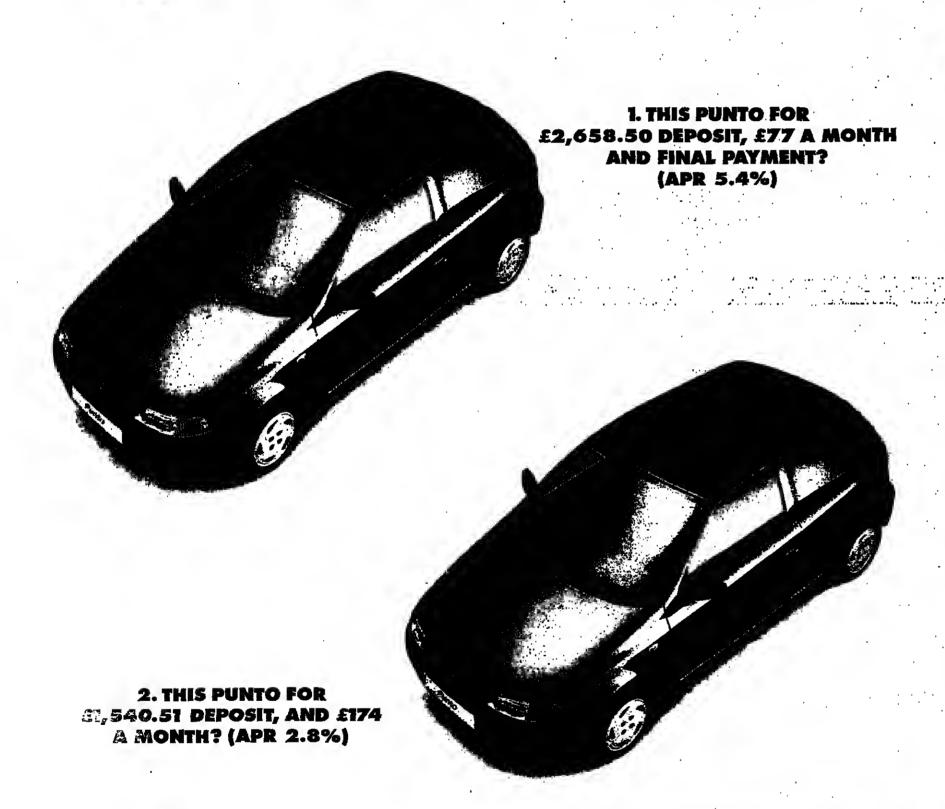
first wife. It is here, rather than at one errant parliamentarian, that many modern-minded Turks think Ms Roth should direct her attentions.

Yesterday, sections of the media friendly to Ms Ciller ral-lied satisfactorily to haul Ms Roth over the coals, failing to note that other comments made by the Green leader had echoed sentiments expressed by the Turkish foreign minister herself. "Turkey is a part of Europe," said Ms Roth, "and there are al-

lies who support her there."

Nationalist Turks would happily live without Ms Roth's words of support. As for the clusive Mr Altinsov, a Welfare Party colleague suggested vesterday that the minister's bigamy should be treated with the discretion extended to exsanctions four - are usually tra-marital peccadillues of the late Francois Mitterrand.

# WHICH PUNTO WOULD YOU PREFER?



#### NONTHLY PAYMENT APR 5.4% PLAN EXAMPLE PUNTO 55S 3DR 3S Monthly Payments £7,627.38 £77.00 Final Payment\* (inc £25 option fee Deposit £2,658.50 £2,768.86 £4.968.88 5.4% APR Total Charge For Credit Period 37 Months £636.98 First Payment (inc 265 admin fee) £142.00 £8,264.36

Would you like a Fiat Punto that offers an amazing combination of style, practicality and sheer originality? One that's designed by Giorgetto Giugiaro and was voted European Car of the Year 1995?

Or would you prefer a Punto with safety features like side impact burs and sent belt protensioners as standard? All fitted into an

#### 2. LOW DEPOSIT APR 2.8% HIRE PURCHASE EXAMPLE PUNTO 55S 3DR £174.00 Cash Pricet (on the root £7,627.38 Final Payment (inc £25 option fee £1,540.51 £199.00 2.8% 26,086,87 APR £267.13 36 Months Period £7,894.51 £239.00

incredibly compact body that feels anything but small inside.

No contest. These Puntos are identical, they can both give you all of these things. The only difference is how you pay.

Visit your local dealer or call 0800 71 7000 or http://www.fiat.co.uk for more information.

# ficant shorts

## France faces cuts to stay on target for Emu

The French government may have to impose emergency The French government may have to impose emergency spending cuts this year to meet the Maastricht guidelines for membership of the European single currency.

Despite the first signs of a recovery in the French economy, mid-year spending cuts may have to be imposed to keep the budget deficit close to the target of 3 per cent of gross national product set by the Maastricht treaty.

The social security budget – covering health and treamplement – also appears to be overshooting its

unemployment – also appears to be overshooting its projected deficit for 1997. The budget short-falls, revealed by *Le Monde* yesterday, are blamed partly on lower than anticipated VAT receipts.

John Lichfield – Parls

#### Taiwan deal angers Peking

China blasted the Uoited States for its sales of F-16 fighters to Taiwan, saying the move had seriously harmed Sino-US relations.

"The Chinese government has already voiced its strong osition to the US side. Foreign Shen Guofang said in a statement.

## Fela Kuti on cannabis charge

Nigeria's anti-narcotics agency charged musician Fela Anikulapo-Kuti with several drug offences and the star could face a minimum of 15 years in jail if convicted. Kuti was arrested last week with 107 others at his nightclub. The Shrine, in Lagos for alleged possession of

#### Mali election clashes

Oppositioo activists and security forces clashed in Mali's capital Bamako yesterday when two opposition alliances tried to stage election protests in defiance of a

government ban. Witnesses said police used tear gas to disperse protesters in the city centre, where groups of opposition militants burned tyres and called for the government to resign and for elections to he suspended and reorganised after chaotic weekend polling. Reuters - Bamako

## Arson attack kills 12

Three masked gunmen hurst into a bar yesterday in the northern Portuguese town of Amarante, splashed gasoline around and set it ahlaze. Twelve people were killed and 14 injured, including one wounded by gunfire. Most of the bodies were found by a locked fire door.

AP - Lisbon

#### Sodomy laws scrapped

Legislators in the Australian state of Tasmania approved the scrapping of the island's harsh laws against sodomy. Tasmania's tiny upper House of the state parliament narrowly voted for a hill to repeal the existing taws, unique in Australia for making anal sex a crime punishable by up to 21 years' jail. Reuters - Hobart

## Mandela hosts Zaire talks



The Zairean rebel leader. Laurent Kabila (pictured). met South African President Nelson Mandeta to launch a round of talks aimed at ending fighting in Zaire. Mr Kabila posed for photoghaphers with Mr Mandela in Cape Town before the two went into a private meeting. They refused to answer questions from journalists. Reuters - Cape

# US allows drugs in worship

American Indian soldiers will be allowed to take the hallucinogenic plant peyote as part of their religious

ceremonies under new guidelines adopted by the military. The announcement on Tuesday ends years of distress for Marine Staff Sgt Shawn Arnold, who said he had been told not to practise his faith.

Sgt Arnold, from the Navajo reservation in Shiprock.

Marine said he had twice been the support with

New Mexico, said he had twice been threatened with court martial because of his religion. Pevote, or mescal, is a cactus with psychedelic properties that grows in southern Texas. Federal law permits its use by the 25th (RRI Native American Church members. AP - Albuquerque

عكذا من المذعل

water transfer tracking A. S. C. C. L. Dengerment

therein is the man

The state of the s

soft fact, or or high

to the contract of the large

g Cita . re : mie e hedene

mients in a real has

red; but per changether

Mr. Korn Cother

delight to group of the fifther

attended by the second

The William No Se

A second of the second to the

Live Many on high

drive where the transfer

Attached and the second

spaced to the confiden-

Bridge Walley

that offer amorning

der alle de de

# No lasting rest for lost victim of Korean war

Seoul - It should have been a hisoric and emotional occasion. On St George's Day next week, British veterans from the Korean War were to have gathered at the Commonwealth war cemetery in Pusan to lay to rest one of their fallen comrades.

For nearly half a century he had lain unknown and unburied in foreign soil. Then a remarkable and unexpected thing happened. In 1995, 42 years after the war ended, he became the first British serviceman in be handed over by the Stalinist government of North Korea, perhaps the most reclusive regime in the world.

British officials spent months in

tricky negotiations with the North Korean People's Army across the demilitarised zone which still divides the peninsula. But yesterday, with the invitations about to be sent out from the British embassy in Seoul, the funeral was cancelled, not because of North Korean obstruction. but because the American Department of Defense is refusing to hand over his remains,

Officials in London insist there are no hard feelings, But British diplomats in Seoul privately are annoyed about the last-minute collapse of what should have been a proud,

symbolic and resonant moment. This morning, 100 veterans and their families will arrive in Seoul, accompanied by the Duke of Gloucester, for a week of commemorations for the 1,100 British servicemen who died during the three-year Korean conflict. On Sunday, the dead man's widow and his son, born after his death, were to have flown out 10 join the party. But next Wednesday, as the veterans travel from Seoul to Pusan, the British remains will stay locked in storage in a Pentagon laboratory in Hawaii, Despite the presence of identifying "dog tags", US scientists insist they do not know who the dead man is

and will not release the body. At the heart of the disagreement are deep differences between the way way negotiations on a security plan Britain and the United States regard to replace the 1953 armistice that

Richard Lloyd Parry on the row delaying the burial of a British soldier

makes strenuous efforts to identify them. Until the Falklands War in 1982, British policy was to let the dead "lie where they fall".

After the Korean War ended, anknown numbers of dead servicemen were left in North Korean territory. In 1990 the North began returning American remains, which were duly sent to the Pentagon's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CIL-HAI). When North Korea handed over the first British body in October 1995, it was also sent to CILHAL with accompanying dog tags.

Recently the answer came back; the body could not be identified with confidence and would not be released for next week's funeral.

"It's been British practice to take dog tags as empirical evidence." says a British officer involved with the case. "At Ypres, when they were pulling corpses out of the mnd, that

was often the best you could do." For the scientists in CILHAI this is not enough. They need absolute proof of identity, which means DNA

The early signs, at least, were good.

Talks between North and South Ko-

rea, divided since the Korean war,

began yesterday with cautious indi-

cations from both sides that there



Baring the brunt: Soldiers of the Black Watch regiment marching to the wash house during their tour of duty in the Korean War

samples. "They were literally asking us for locks of hair, even envelopes that he might have licked, which might still carry his DNA," says a British diplomat.

But the scientists failed to make a match, just as they have failed to make a match in almost every case they have dealt with. Of the 210 sets of US remains sent to the lab from North Korea since 1990, only six have been positively identified.

The Americans say dog tags prove nothing. The tags tell you that io all probability the person who once car-

صكدا من الأصل

But just because you have a set of remains and a set of dog tags doesn't prove that they once belonged to the same person." For North Koreans, whose economy has now collapsed, there is an

incentive to produce remains: since

Talks bring a glimmer of hope to divided nation

to listen to what the North Korean del-

1990 they have been paid \$1m for "expenses" incurred in locating the remains, In the past, a single set of ried them is dead," says Jim Coles
III, spokesman for US Forces Korea.
American remains has been discavered by CILHAt to contain bones

from as many as three different bodies. "The North Korean recovery technique are inadequate," says Mr Coles. They might find a hip here and a leg bone here and think that's good enough in make a person. That's unacceptable to us."

British diplomats in New York was assumed on all sides that the rewere approached by the North Korean mission to the UN in July 1005 with news of the remains. The North wanted a hand-over to be conducted bilaterally between London and Pyongvang. As a member of the UN command, which technically monitors the Korean armistice, Britain insisted that the body be handed over draped in the UN flag.

Photograph: AP

mains were British. The British Defence attache in Scoul, Brigadier Colin Part, negotiated the hand-over with the North Koreans, although he did so in his capacity as a UN representative. When the casket was handed over on 31 October 1995, it was Brigadier Parr who inspected it. Britain's strict adherence to the

terms of the Armistice appears to have cost it dearly. Having surrendered the remains to the Pentagon. it is proving difficult to get them back.

"In hindsight," says one diplomat, "it might have been hetter if we had never handed them over" Sam Mcreer, of the British Kore-

an Veterans' Association fought with the Gloucestershire Regiment at the Imjin River. "The saddest thing for us was we lost 58 killed in that battle and we were not physically able to bury them," he said.

Because the bodies were left be-

hind enemy lines, many were listed as "Missing in Action", which made it harder for their families to come to terms with. Mr Ellison said: "We will be delighted if everything goes well. It will be be a great load off the

## cuts to : for Emu

. 32am - 1 1 5

AND DESCRIPTION

granten in the early

 $\mathcal{A}^{1}$ ,  $A^{2}$ ,  $A^{3}$ ,  $A^{3}$ 

3. 7 hours

ne Alleria

- Refere Landinger Pal rs Peking

Actions to the en-

Residence Pelo rabis charge

Adam . Adam . Land

shes

graph of the 100

rapped

5 12

51.70

Zaire talks

e garconii 

I in worship



might be progress in healing the division of the Korean peninsula. ister, Kim Gye Gwan, recalled a Korean proverb that "the beginning means the work is half done," He added: "I think we will come out with Under a US-South Korean proposal, China and the United States would be the intermediaries in foursome results." A South Korean diplomat, Sah Ji-

all the biodies it can locate and rean War. The talks, which began in give a response is good. We came here the North would accept the offer for severe food shortages. Mr Burns said a Pelking, would arrive in Seoul soon. family's mind".

United Nations, were scheduled for one day but could continue tomorrow, US officials said. North Korea's vice-foreign min-

a hotel across the street from the

Won was optimistic, saying "the fact

egates have to say." Asked what he expected from the talks, the South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister and delegation chief, Song Young Shik, crossed his fingers for luck. Last month, US and South Korean

representatives briefed the North Koreans in New York about the offer. North Korea asked for another round of discussions, saying It needed more time to study it. Privately,

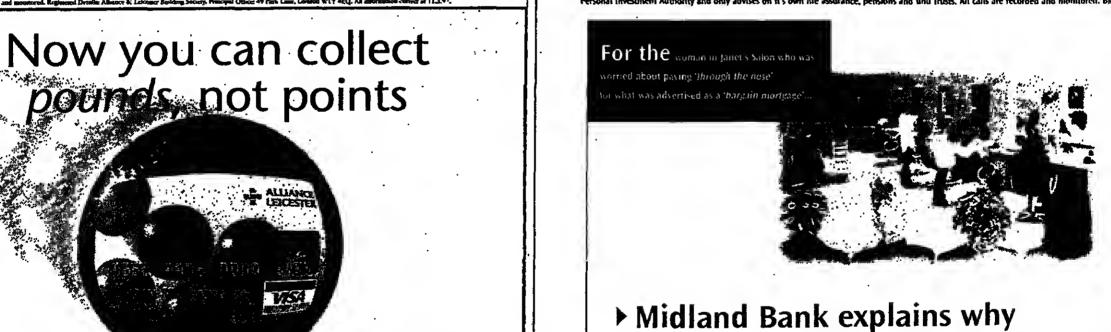
negotiations to end formally the state of war which has existed since the armistice was signed. Nicholas Burns, a US State De-

partment spokesman, said the United States was anxious for the talks "to determine ways to promote stability-security stability-on the Ko-rean peninsula". On the eve of corn to North Korea to assist chil-dren under six who are affected by

North Korean acceptance of the peace talks offer. But the North Koreans had indicated that they believe American help in overcoming the country's critical food shortage is a sign of good faith.

SEOUL (Renter) - South Korea is preparing for the arrival of a deyesterday's talks, the US announced feeting top Pyongyang ideologue. Seit will ship \$15m (£9.25m) worth of curity officials in Seoul said Hwang Jang-yop, now sheltering in the

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Midland mortgages are subject to security and status. A charge will be taken over the property and appropriate life policy(res). Written details and further information concerning the special offers are available from Midland Mortgages on 0800 100 129. Midland Bank pic is regulated by the



Midland

The Listening Bank

Member HSBC Group

http://www.midlandbank.com

Get on the ball with Britain's only money back credit card

The new Alliance & Leicester Credit Card gives you money back on every purchase, every year! There's no other card like it in the U.K. today!

Just look at all the advantages you enjoy: money back on every purchase, every year

D double money back of up to 2% in 1997 no annual fee – unlike many other credit cards

up to 46 days interest-free credit • free Purchase Protection

Low standard rates of 17.9% APR and 12.9% APR on transferred balances' until they are repaid

**ALLIANCE** 

Get on the ball for double money back. Apply today Lines open 24 hours a day

Leicester	information Pac money back credit	t card.
Initials	Surname	
<u> </u>	<del></del>	
D	are of Birth	The money 6
I signerar C	wdir Cards	Your questions
	Initials  D.  Leicester C.	Leicester money back crew

Your mortgage discount scheme looked great, until you found hosts of costly hidden extras "lurking in the small print."

some mortgage discount schemes

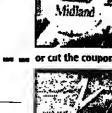
can be a false economy.

Midland's offer has nothing to hide. We've devised a complete mortgage package with genuine savings across the board.

There are discounts on contents insurance, buildings insurance and mortgage repayment protection premiums. With our variable rate mortgage, there's a first year discount, free valuation and a £500 cash payment, What's more, you can take the whole package or just the mortgage - it's entirely up to you.

Our new mortgage is just one of Midland's many bright ideas to make home buying easier.





our products and services in lature." [] has [] the iplease like

For more information, complete in BLOCK C FREEPOST SWB 332, Bristol, BS1 68R	APITALS and retur	m the coupon to: Midland Bank	plc,
Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss/Other (please specify)	Initials	Surname	
Nouse name/number	Street		
Town			
County		Postcode	
Daytime tel no (inc. STD)	Evening to	d no (inc. STD)	IND 17/4
Are you a first time buyer?   Yes  No lotesse tic			



# Tung feels US chill and calls off visit

Hong Kong

Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive of Hong Kong's first post-colonial government, announced yesterday that he would posipone a planned visit to the US next month as his leading opponent, Martin Lee, the leader of the Democratic Party, prepares for a meeting tomorrow with President Bill Clinton and Vice-President Al

It is understood that Mr Tung was concerned that he would not be received at the same level or with the same degree of warmth which has greeted Mr Lee during his lengthy visit to the United States.

Mr Lee arrived in the United States without any confirmed meetings at senior levels ever he has already held a successful 45 minute meeting with

retary of State, and secured a erties in the territory. A considerable coup by arranging spokesman for Mr Tung insistconsiderable coup by arranging meeting with the President These meetings were the result of intensive lobbying by Mr Lee's impressive number of allies in Congress.
Branded as a "subversive" by

the Chinese government, Mr Lee is the colony's most prominent democrat and leader of the party which has consistently scored the highest number of votes in Hong Kong's limited election system.

Mr Tung is well connected in United States business and for-eign policy circles, but his aides were concerned that his connections would not be sufficient to make the sort of impact Mr Lee has been making during his

They were also worried that Mr Tung would be forced to spend most of his time on the defensive, answering human rights concerns and explaining why he plans to curb civil lib-

ed that he would try to visit the US in the second half of the year, explaining that he could not do so before then, "mainly because of the tremendous workload generated by the many pressing issues that remained to be resolved".

The background to the jockeying for attention in the Unitanti-Peking sentiment in Congress and spreading unease about China's intentions to-wards Hong Kong. Mrs Al-bright has pointedly accepted an invitation to attend the 30 June celebrations to mark the handover to Chinese rule, saying she would be present to un-derline the United States commitment to preserving Hong Kong's current way of life and

Senator Jesse Helms, the powerful chairman of the Senate's Foreign Relations Com-

mittee, has indicated the extent of hostility to China by sug-Hong Kong Provisional Legislature, appointed by the Chinese government, should be barred from entering the US because they are serving on an illegitimate body.

Mr Tung has indirectly accused Mr Lee of being responsible for American hostility by accusing him of spreading a negative view of Hong Kong in the United States. He originally said that the purpose of his vis-it would be to "dispel pessimistic views".

London (Reuters) - Britain summoned a senior Chinese diplomat in London to warn him of "deep concerns" over the role of Peking's Provisional Legislature for Hong Kong

Reports that this Chinese body was considering laws on public holidays in Hong Kong provoked Britain to summ the Chinese official.



# HALF PRICE SALE aker Blue is simply To cater for every appetite, all cabinets in 50 Kitchen and Bedroom more affordable ranges are reduced in price, most by 50%.

Take a look at these tempting Spring offers Whirlpool

Free Dishwasher

ADG993 when you spend £3,250 or more on a kitchen purchase (excluding installation) WORTH £599.99 (RRP)

Free Hob

ASK IN-STORE FOR DETAILS OF THESE AND MANY MORE OFFERS

Exclusive appliances from Magnet. Quality, atyle and features at value for money prices.

There's so much to choose from on the Magnet men For your nearest showroom call 0800 555 825

Magnet NOW ON Food for thought

Serving up beautiful kitchens between the hours of: nday-Saturday 8.00-5.00. Selected branches open until 8.00 on Thursday and 10.00-4.00 on Sunday. Check each branch for details. Discounts are off prices charged between 2nd-21st March 1997.

# Saudis clear debris of Mecca's hellish pilgrimage inferno

Patrick Cockburn

Mecca were yesterday trying to identify the bodies of 217 Muslim pilgrims burned to death in city as they attended the Hajj pilgrimage. A further 1,290 people are

known to suffered injuries as the flames, fanned by the wind, spread rapidly through the 70,000 tents pitched on the plain of Mina outside the holy

Diplomats said the number of casualties, mostly from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, might rise. 'All our efforts to get an idea of the number of the dead are in vain," said one foreign envoy. "Hospital staff are not authorised to speak and the Saudi authorities are not sharing new information with the

embassies or the press."

Mohammed Hamad Ansari,
the Indian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said the number of Indian victims might eventually total 100. "The bodies were charred in the fire and we cannot identify them except from a missing persons list," he said. About 12 Pakistanis have been identified out of 30 who are thought to have died.

In the remains of the Mina encampment, trucks were beginning yesterday to cart away burned wreckage of everything from charred water bottles to

and buses, which caught fire as strong winds spread the flames. The cause of the blaze is being attributed to an exploding gas cylinder, often used for cooking by many of the 2 million Hajj

of the five pillars of Islam. It reached its high point yesterday as pilgrims, clothed in white, walked to Mount Arafat, where the Prophet Mohammed is reputed to have preached his last sermon. The pilgrims chanted: "I have answered your call, God, there is no God but you." Behind them, new tents are

being erected to replaced those destroyed in the blaze. The Eid al-Adha feast at the

end of the Hajj is celebrated by

pede in a tunnel between Mina and Mecca led to 1,400 people being crushed to death. In 1987 400 people were killed in clashanother 270 people were crushed to death in a stampede. To take part in the Haji is one Saudi Arabia says it has spent \$18.6bn (£10bn) in the last 10 years on improving facilities

for those attending the Hajj. The Saudi authorities say the problems stem from the failure of Muslim countries to keep to a quota system agreed in 1988 by the Organisation of the Islamic Countries. Under this a country is allowed one pilgrim performing the Hajj for every 1,000 Muslims in its population. But in the past year, almost half the 2 million pilgrims were from Saudi Arabia itself.



# Attorney scandal touches heart of Israeli coalition

Patrick Cockburn

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, is waiting to see the casualty rate among his closest political colleagues after Israeli pulice recommended pressing criminal charges against three leading figures in the scandal over the appointment of the Attorney-General.

The recommendations come in a police report completed after a three-month investigation into the political influence used to get Roni Bar-On, a lawyer, made Attorney-General in January. At the centre of the scandal is the allegation that Arych Deri, leader of one of the parties in the government coalition and who is on trial for corruption, obtained the appointment of Mr Bar-On in order to ease his legal troubles.

Despite the police recom-mendation to indict three of those involved, the State Attorney and Attorney-Geoeral are unlikely to prosecute Tzahi Haneghi, the Justice Minister, or Avigdor Lieberman, director general of the Prime Minister's office, according to press reports. But even if he is not indicted it may prove impossible for Mr Hanegbi, accused of helping to cook up the deal whereby Mr

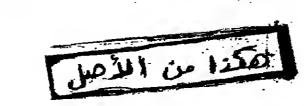
Bar-On was appointed (he resigned after 48 hours), to remain as Justice Minister. If Mr Deri, leader of the religious Shas party, is indicted, his party is threatening to bring down the government coalition. The police say that during their investigations they were subjected to political pressure. which they withstood.

the report but the police did not racis are to resume meeting.

move to charge him formally. Whatever the mechanism by which Mr Bar-On was chosen, there is no doubt that the lorce behind his appointment was Mr Deri's desire to see a malleable party loyalist in the Attorney-General's office willing

to support a plea bargain. Meanwhile, Israel yesterday closed the West Bank, pre-venting all Palestinian workers from entering Israel or Jewish settlements. The Defence Ministry said it had received warmings of attacks on Israelis.

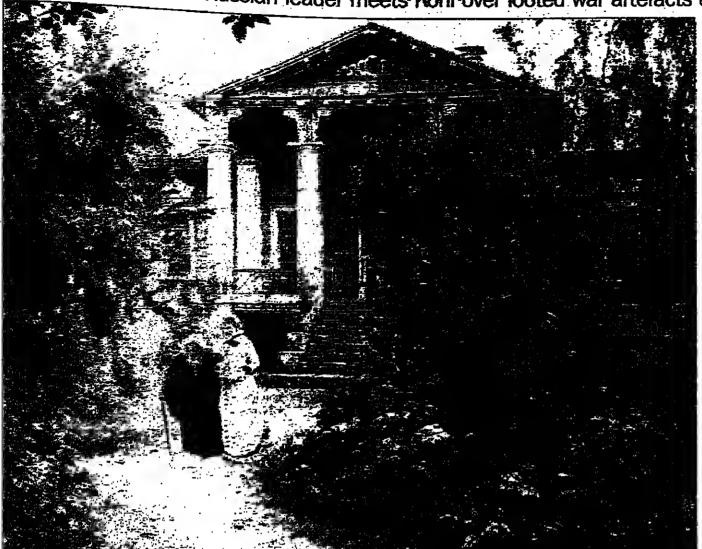
There were some signs of the diplomatic stalemate ending as Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, met David Levy, the Foreign Minister, in Malta Both sides said progress had been made and the origins of present disputes discussed. Security com Mr Netanyahu is criticised in mittees of Palestinians and Is



HE IND PENERS

Art in demand: Russian leader meets Kohi over looted war artefacts as Moscow's museums suffer at the hands of the mafia

صكدا من الأصل



In danger: Works like this one, by Russian artist Vasily Polenov, have been the target of art thieves

# Yeltsin treasures spoils of diplomacy

Clutching a selection of looted art tressures, Boris Yeltsin flew to Germany yesterday for a bout of high-profile boultomic and backroom bartering with his "friend", Chancellor Helmut

The art works, to be presented to-day as "gifts" to their rightful owners, the German people, are expected to be the sweetener in tough negotiations over Nato's encroachment into former Soviet dominions. But the gesture has been soured by hows of protest in Moscow over the Russian President's unorthodox cultural exchange.

Mr Yeltsin wants to return all the spoils plundered by the Red Army at the end of the Second World War, as agreed by the two countries seven years ago. He has vetoed a decision by the Duma, the lower house of parliament, to keep the controversial artefacts on Russian soil.

His blocking move was rejected by a second Duma vote earlier this month, but yesterday the Federation Council, the upper house, put off con-sideration of the issue for a month.

Opposition politicians in Moscow argue that the war booty should stay in Russia because it was Russia, after all, which had woo the war. Or, as the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky Photograph: AKG Londonso eloquently put it: "The Germans are

fascists, 20th-century barbarians ... We exhibition cotitled "Twice Rescued" - a tongue in cheek reference to their Germany, takeo out all industry and shot Germans."

As one might infer from those words, Mr Zhirinovsky is not in favour of restoring a single Goya or Dürer to

of restoring a single Goya or Direr to its pre-war ownership.

Not all Russians would go quite that far, but even mainstream politicians believe that Germany must continue to pay in some way for the destruction wrought during the war.

In an open letter to Chancellor Kohl, the Duma's leading art adviser, Yevgeny Ussenko, claims that German troops caused damage amounting to

troops caused damage amounting to \$1.3bn (£810m) in today's money to Russian culture. "Compared to these losses, the German works of art taken to Russia were insignificant com-pensation," Professor Ussenko wrote,

The works, hidden by the Nazis in the vaults of country manors and castles, were tracked down at the end of

the war by special detachments of the NKVD, the KGB's predecessor. They include sculpture, ceramics, and archeological treasures as well as paintings. Some were returned to East Germany in the Communist era, but most of the loot remained locked in Russian cellars until the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Two years ago Moscow's Pushkin museum displayed for the first time 63 paintings by European masters in an

"rediscovery" under Russian cura-tors' feet. All the works had come from the "war collection".

The row about the war booty, which both countries thought they had settled in their Friendship Treaty in tled in their Friendship treaty in 1990, remains the biggest obstacle to an amicable relationship. Art history is expected to take up much valuable time at today's discussions between the two leaders - time they would rather spend haggling about Russia's place in European security.

As an avid fan of Nato's castward expansion as well as the self-appointed champion of Russian interests in the West. Chancellor Kohl is as close as one can find to an honest broker. Mr Yeltsin knows he cannot stop Nato creeping ever closer to his bor-ders, but he is relying on the German leader to press for an accommodation which will not undermine Russia's se-

curity and pride.
Today's meeting is likely to offer the last opportunity to reach an agreement on guarantees to Russia in exchange for Moscow's nod towards Nato's plans. Russia hopes to sign a document elevating it to a Nato "parmer" at the end of next month, and in July the Atlantic alliance is expected to invite Poland, Hungary and the C. ech Republic to submit their membership ap-

# While thieves strip a nation of its heritage

f Mecca (above) les

lebris

llish

fern(

MATERIAL TOTAL

Russia is losing its beritage by the crateload as criminal groups prayer book that belonged to smuggle more and more art to Alexei Romanov, father of Pethe West, aided by chaotic policing and inadequate security at many of the country's museums,

libraries and churches. Millions of dollars worth of Trotsky. icons and other treasures have eoded up in the hands of smugglers seeking to sell them abroad through a network of shops run by emigrés in Britain, the United States, Italy, and Is-

According to one of Russia's top crime-fighters, General Vasily Fedoschenko, of the Interior Ministry's criminal investigation division, art theft and smuggling is getting steadily worse. He said yesterday that more than 3,000 related offences were registered by police last year – a figure that is likely to represent only a fraction

of the true number. Law enforcement agencies appear to be fighting a losing battle, which is complicated by Russia's vast borders, and endemic official corruption. But there have been several successes. The general said that not long ago Russian detectives, working in tandem with Scotland Yard, removed four paintings from Sotheby's and Christies in Londoo after con-. cluding that they had been stolen from a museum in Sochi on the Black Sea. They were by renowned mineteenth century Russian artists Ivan Aivazovsky Vasily Polenov, and Vasily

Russian customs notched up another coup last October in St ie that could oot leave the Petersburg when they arrested a 56-year-old Russian man just before he boarded a flight to

New York carrying suitcases loaded with art treasures worth tens of millions of dollars. These included a 330-year-old ter the Great, a letter writtee by both the Tsar himself, another written by Catherine the Great, and contemporary portraits of

worse oow than ever before, i is oot oew. From the 1970s, the they called the "Antique Mafia" who toured the provinces steal ing artefacts to smuggle abroad. Some criminals are prepared to go to exotic lengths: five years ago, police arrested a gang operating in the "Golden Ring" or cities around Moscow who had seized a large number of icous after drugging a church warden.

The loss of cultural treasures is deepening sentiments in post Cold War Russia that it is being plundered and exploited by the West, even though the smuggling business is run by

home-grown gangs.
The aothorities have imposed tight rules over the legal export of art. Buyers have to apply to a government committee for a licence for every artefact they want to take out of the pre-war art and almost all icons.

wittingly fallen foul of the system was the cotertainer. Michael Jackson. When he per-General Alexander Korzhakov President Yeltsin's former chief bodyguard. Customs officials concluded it was an historic relcountry. They sent it straight



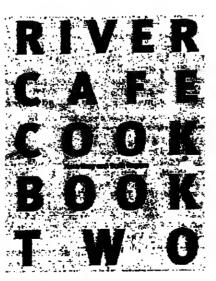
Return to sender: Customs stopped Michael Jackson taking away a "relic" gift from Alexander Korzhakov



RETURN TO



**EXCLUSIVE FOUR-WEEK SERIALISATION** STARTS THIS WEEKEND IN THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



WEEK ONE AT 50p

TO GET YOUR INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY FOR A SPECIAL STARTER PRICE OF 50p, CUT OUT THE VOUCHER IN THIS SATURDAY'S INDEPENDENT

# **Professor** Glanville Williams

Glanville Williams was a legal scholar in a class on his own. His writings were prodigious in their quantity, quality and range. He was a dedicated and inspiring teacher. And he was also a hugely effective law re-former - a kind of legal Asterix, whose boundless energy and unquenchable optimism led him into endless hattles against unjust laws, many of which he won despite the overwhelming odds against him. Nowadays Williams is hest

known as a writer on criminal law, where his fame rests on four books, the influence of which has been enormous. First among these stands his Criminal Law: the General Part (1953), a 900-page text con-cerned, as he explained in the preface, "to search out the general rules of the criminal law, i.e. those applying to more than one crime". The Proof of Guilt (1955) is a comparative account of the rules by which criminal cases are tried in England and Wales, penetrating in its analysis of the merits of our system as well as its defects.

The Sanctity of Life and the Criminal Law (1958) examines the philosophical basis for laws against contraception, sterilisation, artificial insemination, abortion, suicide and cuthanasiz; when it appeared it was very controversial. The fourth book is his 1,000-page Textbook of Criminal Law (1978). This was a successful student textbook, and would be one still if he had ever managed to finish the third edition, on which he had been labouring for 14 years at the time of his death. In fact, his range as a writer

went far beyond the criminal law. Before turning to the criminal law. Williams had already vritten what are still the definitive books on a range of other important legal subjects: Liability for Animals (1939), The Law Reform (Frustrated Con-tracts) Acts (1943) (1945), Crown Proceedings (1948), Joint Obligations (1949), and Joint Tons and Contributory Negligence (1950). In 1947 he had edited Salmond's Jurisprudence.

He covered an even wider range of topics in the huge number of articles which, astonishingly, he also found the time to write. It is difficult, indeed, to think of any important legal subject on which at some time he did not have something original and interesting to say. Nor is this all. For taking noics. he invented and patented a new form of shorthand (Speedhand Shorthand, 1952). And with Learning the Law (1945), now in its 11th edition, he wrote a little introductory book about law studies which was, and still remains, indispensable reading for any would-be law student.

Williams's voluminous aod sometimes complicated writings are inspired by two big and simple notions. The first is that the law should be clear, consistent and accessible. The second is that law should he humane. He was a convinced utilitarian, who held that punishment was an evil to be avoided unless there was a good reason for imposing it, and for whom "good reasons" meant the well-being of society, not the tenets of religious belief. Hence Leon Radzinowicz's celebrated bon mot about him: "Glanville Williams is the illegitimate child

of Jeremy Bentham". These utilitarian beliefs also underlay Williams's efforts as a law reformer, an activity in which he managed to play two roles at once. The first was the "establishment man". He devoted many hours over several decades to serving on a range of official committees, in par-



ticular the Criminal Law Revision Committee, of which he was a member from 1959 to 1980. In this capacity he shares the credit for a number of reports which led, among other hings, to the decriminalisation of suicide in 1961 and the radical reform and codifica-tion of the law of theft in 1968. His second role was that of

"radical outsider". Working sometimes with others, sometimes on his own, he was adept at stirring up public opinion over matters where official interest in reform was lacking. He took a major part in the camipaign to liberalise the law on abortion, which largely succeeded with the Abortion Act of 1967. He was also very active lawyer: born Bridgend, Glamorgan 15 February 1911; Called to the Bar, Middle Temple 1935; Rein the campaign to legalise vol-untary outhanasia, which has so far largely failed. He was both president of the Abortion Law Reform Association, and a vicepresident of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society.

In the 1950s he was among the first to draw public attention to the problems children face when giving evidence in sex cases - and was still campaigning on the subject in the 1980s. In 1960 he was the first person

publicly to advocate the taperecording of interviews with suspects in police stations; initially condemned as a silly and impractical idea, 25 years later this became almost universal practice. Perhaps his greatest triumph was in 1986, when a welltimed article persuaded the House of Lords to rule that a person can be guilty of attempt even where the crime in question was impossible of completion: so overruling their decision the other way the year before, and expressly overruling, for the first time ever, their previous decision in a criminal case. Glanville Williams was a re-

spected and innovative teacher. He was also very supportive throughout their careers to a number of his junior colleagues. Although a kind man, however, he was rather shy, and not a great socialiser outside the cir-cle of his family. He was brought up in a pious Congre-gationalist family in South Wales, and much of his background stayed with him. Notwithstanding his great emnence, he remained to the end of his days a quiet-spoken, modest, gentle, serious-minded Welshman. Although an ag-nostic for most of his life he knew his Bible, and the use of biblical phrases was instinctive to him. "He smote him hip and thigh", he once said, describing an article an American had written criticising Sigmund

Academic honours were heaped upon him, culminating in 1995 in a Doctorate of Letters honoris causa from his own university, Cambridge, During his lifetime it was widely rumoured that he had never been offered a knighthoud hecause he had been staunchly pacifist before the Second World War, and during it a conscientious objector. The truth, however, is that he was offered one and declined it; partly from modesty, and partly because he thought it incongruous that a man who had refused to wield a bayonet should theoretically bear a

Freud.

J.R. Spencer Glanville Llewelyn Williams, search Fellow, St John's College, Cambridge 1936-42; Reader in English Law, then Professor of Public Law and Quain Professor of Jurisprudence, London University 1945-55; Fellow Jesus College, Cambridge 1955-97: Reader in Law, Cambridge University 1957-65, Professor of English Law 1966-68, Rouse Ball

Professor of English Law 1968-

78; QC 1968; married 1939 Lor-

na Lawfield (one son); died 10

April 1997.

en Judy Gunn (left) and Winifred Shotter (right) in Lilles of the Field, 1934

# **Anthony Bushell**

With his upright bearing, cultured diction and delicate good looks - he once understudied Ivor Novello - the actor (later producer and director) Anthony Bushell started his career as sensitive, if callow, leading man before graduating to character roles in which be excelled as (not always honourable) members of the British military. He had a hrief career on the London and Broadway stages and as a leading man in Hollywood before carving a niche for himself in the British cinema. Later he became Sir Laurence Olivier's general manager and both produced and directed movies and television shows.

Born in Westerham, Kent in 1904, he was educated at Magdalen College School, then at Hertford College, Oxford, where he hefriended Evelyn Waugh, a fellow member of the Hypocrites Club, a raffish group described by Waugh io his diaries as "notorious not only for drunkenness hut for flamboyance of dress and manner which was in some cases patently ho-mosexual". Waugh describes their heavy drinking and wild parties, including an "orgy" where he "unearthed a strap and whipped Tony". Despite the roistering, Bushell was the college's middle-weight boxing champion during his first year, and later became stroke of

their rowing crew. After Oxford, Bushell studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, and made his theatrical début at the Adelphi Theatre in 1924 in Diplomacy, starring Gladys Cooper and Sir Gerald Du Maurier. In 1927 he made his debut on the Broadway stage opposite Jeanne Eagels in Her Cardboard Lover. and the following year he married the musical comedy star Zelma O'Neal. In his next

Broadway play, Somerset Maugham's The Sacred Flame, he was seen by the actor George Arliss who insisted that he be cast as the romantic juvenile in Disraeli (1929), Arliss's first talking picture.
Bushell followed this with the

role of the cowardly Second Lieutenant Hibbert (the first of many military roles he would play) in James Whale's screen version of R.C. Sherriff's sardonic anti-war play Journey's End (1930). He made a dozen more films in Hollywood, including Three Faces East (1930). starring Erich Von Stroheim as a German spy operating as a hutler in Bushell's housebold, Five Star Final (1931) in which Bushell was one of those victimised by a ruthless tabloid exposé, Allan Dwan's Chances (1931), as an army officer who loves the same girl as his hrother (Douglas Fairbanks Jr), Van-ity Fair (1932) with Myrna Loy as Becky Sharp, and the silent star Pola Negri's first talkie, A Woman Commands (1932). He returned to England in

1932 to continue his acting career, his prolific film roles including a naval officer in The Midshipmaid (1932) with Jessie Matthews, the romantic lead in the Karloff horror, film, The , ed. Aremake of a German film Ghoul (1933), a friend to hero Der Engel mit der Postune, its Leslie Howard in an acclaimed tale of a Viennese planoversion of The Scarlet Pimpernel (1934), a secret agent who helps British spy Vivien Leigh in Dark Journey (1937), and the conceited star football player who is poisoned during a match in Thorold Dickinson's enjoyable Arsenal Stadium Mystery (1939), which featured the Arsenal football team.

Bushell's own sporting prowess surfaced again in 1939 when, while appearing with the Malvern Festival Players, he was part of their cricket team

against the Stratford Festival Players and scored 112 not out. After service in the Second World War commanding a squadron of the Guards Armoured Division, during which he met and married his second wife Anne (his first marriage had been dissolved in 1935), Bushell returned to acting, but also moved to the production

side of the business. Forming a close personal and business relationship with Laurence Olivier, he was associate producer on Olivier's Oscar-winning filin of Hamlet (1948), and later functioned as associate director on both Richard III (1965) and The Prince and the Showgirl (1957). This meant overseeing the scenes in which Olivier himself appeared, though according to Colin Clark's diaries The Prince, The Showgirl And Me (1995). Bushell "couldn't direct traffic ... hut Sir Laurence needs a chum to guard his rear, as it were, and it is a great joy to have

Tony around."

The affahle and companionable Bushell was always popular with his fellow workers. In 1949 he made his first film as a director, The Angel With .4 Trumpet, in which he also actmaking family through three generations was considered somewhat ponderous, while his next effort The Long Dark Hall (1951), a thriller produced by Bushell and co-directed with Reginald Beck made little impression despite the star team Rex Harrison and Lilli Palmer. His last feature as a director was

The Terror of the Tongs (1961). Three of his more sympathetic roles on screen colonel in charge of bomh disposals in Powell and Press-

burger's The Small Back Room (1948), the urbanely devious British Minister who misleadsthe enemy in the same team's Battle of the River Plate (1956) and a kindly brigadier helping pilot Dirk Bogarde who has se-cretly married a Japanese girl in Ralph Thomas's The Wind Cannot Read (1958) - were particularly impressive, and he was perfectly cast as Captain of the Carpathia, endeavouring to reach the sinking Tuanic in Roy Baker's A Night To Re-

member (1958). He was associate director on The Red Beret (1953), Hell Below Zero (1954) and Bhowani Junction (1956), all this serving as apprenticeship for his entry into television, where besides acting in many plays and series he produced the fondly remembered Sir Francis Drake series (1961-62) - 26 stirring episodes with Terence Morgan and Jean Kent as Drake and Queen Elizabeth - and direct-ed episodes of The Saint. His television acting roles included the commander who inspires four former wartime colleagues to reunite in a fight against injustice in the opening episode of the series The Four Just Men (1959) and the memorably malevolent and pig-headed colonel in the chilling Quater-mass And The Pit (1967), one of the best of all television's sci-fi

and jovial social life. Tom Vallance

Anthony Bushell, actor, director and producer: born Westerham, Keni 19 May 1904; twice married, first 1928 Zelma O'Neal (marriage dissolved 1935); died Oxford 2 April 1997.

thrillers (far superior to its film translation). After retirement,

Anthony Bushell became a di-

rector of the Monte Carlo Golf

Cluh and maintained an active

# Jock Bain

Trombone players tend to like each other more than other in-strumentalists do. They watch out for each other's loterests as though they were blood relatives and even the distinction between jazz and non-jazz players becomes hlurred. Jock Bain was nrusual at being good at both kinds of playing. It is not going too far to suggest that he was a British Tommy Dorsey. But unlike Dorsey, Bain was a good jazz improviser (Dorsey liked to be able to polish his improvised" solos in advance).

Bain was equally at home de-livering poised and elegant fea-tures with Mantovani or mixing it with top jazzmen like Ronnic Scott or Tubby Hayes. Indeed at the 1955 Jazz Jamborec at the Gaumont State in Kilhurn. north London, Bain's jazz group shared the billing with the Ted Heath Band, the Ray Ellington Quartet and bands led by Scott and Hayes.

Bain was associated for many years with the bandleader Geraldo, notably in a performance during the Fifties at the Festival Hall of Igor Stravinsky's Ebony Concerto. Some 10 years earlier, the then impecunious Stravinsky had accepted a com-mission from Woody Herman to compose the suite. The work proved enormously difficult for the Herman band to surmount, since it was written with symphony musicians in mind. But Geraldo's orchestra had to be given credit for tackling the suite, no matter how obscure the artistic target, Everything after that must have seemed easy.

Taking up trombone at school, Bain played in the City of Edinburgh Brass Band before playing in local dance halls. He moved to London in 1935 where he played for Tommy Finnigan's band, but by the end of the year graduated into the Roy Fox Orchestra Bain stayed with Fox for the next three years, and from then on was always a sideman with the top line bands. Ho worked with Ambrose in 1942 and with Maurice Winnick in 1943, rejoining both bands in later years, before joining Geraldo at the end of 1944. In 1948 he left Geraldo to open a phetographic shop in Edinburgh, but the following year returned

to London.
After a further spell with Bert Ambrose and with Carrol Gibbons, both in 1953, Bain con. centrated on freelancing and be: came a highly successful studic musician. For so distinguished a jazz musician he recorded little, although he can be heard; playing fine trombone with the Malcolm Lockyer Octet of 1957. Oddly, he is perhaps hest known, albeit anonymously, for his smooth. Dorsey-like tromhone solo on Mantovani's recording of "Charmaine", the ultimate antithesis of jazz.

Steve Voce &

John Cockburn Bainsfather (Jock Bain), trombonist: born Edinburgh 8 June 1914; married 1933 Jessie Merrilees (three sons, one daughter), 1957 Valerie Tyler, died Portsmouth 13 March 1997.

# **Lesley Scott-Ordish**

Lesley Scott-Ordish devoted most of her life to investigating and writing about the bond between humans and animals, in particular dogs. She was the tounder of Pro Dogs National Charity and its sister charity Pat Dogs (Pets as Therapy).

She did not have a dog of her own during childhood - her first was a cocker spaniel bought just after her marriage to Peter Or-dish in 1953. She trained as a iournalist and in the early Seventies was dismayed by the extensive press coverage, first in the United States and later in Britain, of health hazards associated with dogs - for example.

Births.

the risk of blindness from toxocariasis, which in rare cases can be passed from dogs to humans. In 1976, working at first from her home in Kent, she founded Pro Dogs, in response to what she saw as a growing antidog movement in the media and its damaging effect on public perceptions of dogs and their owners. She set out to highlight the beneficial influence dogs can have and to provide an umbrella. organisation for responsible dog owners. Over the years, the

charity gathered a panel of veterinarian and medical experts

to respond to health scares and

organised campaigns against

cluding work towards the abolition of the dog licence, which From members' letters and

was eventually scrapped in 1988. phone calls. Lesley Scott-Ordish discovered the trauma experienced by the elderly if forced to give up a much-loved pet upon ing into residential care. This led her to found, in 1983. Pat Dogs, a national home and hospital visiting scheme through which carefully screened dog owners visit the sick and elderly on a regular basis with their dogs. The therapeutic effects of patting a dog were impressive and

restrictive laws on dogs and with encouragement from the where they may be exercised, in-Royal College of Nursing, a net-work of volunteers with friendly dogs was set up. There are now over 9,500 of these special dogs registered with the charity.

Scott-Ordish assisted in the launch of another charity. Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, in 1982 (which trains dogs to alert a deaf owner to a ringing doorbell or boiling kettle, for example) and Canine Partners for Independence in 1991 (providing dogs to help the severely disabled). She became vice-president of both organisations. In 1990 she published Hero-

ic Dogs, to celebrate the first 11

years of the Pro Dogs Gold Medal Awards. These are the annual canine "Oscars", awarded since 1979 for outstanding achievements in life saving, devotion to duty and pet of the year, intended as an alternative to the Crufts prizes.

She spent the latter part of her life promoting the many positive benefits of dog ownership. She bred English setters for a while, returning more recently to the cocker spaniel. In 1996 she published Cocker Spaniels, an Owners Guide and in 1997 brought out For Love of Dogs, chronicling 20 years of research into how and why animal companionship can

affect the health and well-being of humans. She described this booklet as "something of a swansong, and tribute to all the lovely dogs who comfort and uncomplainingly love us".

Arnold Rosen

Lesley Scott Adey, charity ad-ministrator, born 25 March 1932; married 1953 Peter Ordish (two sons); died Ashford, Kent 26 March 1997.

 The main source of fundraising for Pat Dogs is their annual "Walkover Britain" event; 43 nrganised walks, this year nn 5 May. For further details, please telephone 01732 872222



Consecutive sentences passed separately aggregated

Marriages & Deaths DEATHS

late of Hatherop, died peacetully in his sleep on Monday 14 April, aged 89 years. No flowers please, by his request. Donations in tieu to the Woodland Trust or charities fur the homeless. Private funeral, Memoriat service to be announced.

BAZLEY: Sir Thomas Stafford, Bt.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Observe Pation attends the little How SuperRes Flow Power and So H. E. The Promose Repal Procedure is Characteristic to the Consolid Power and So Hawkerd Institute or Emports
Solid Society in the Characteristic Conference on the Consolid Power in the Primer of Food Trace for Cone and
Solid Residence on the Characteristic Cone of the Cone
of Procedure of Hower than I then have the The
Booker of Hower than the Conference of Cone
of Procedure of Residence on the Cone (Cone)
The Booker of Residence than the Cone of Procedure of Residence of Residence
of Procedure of Institute of Residence of Procedure of Residence
And Cone of Residence of Residence of Residence
of Cone of Residence of Residence of Residence
Characterings of The Cone of ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard Chairing using the Membed Regement resumts the Hand of the Membed Standard Herrer Gamels Hand to Hand the Hand of Herrer Gamels Hand to Handson The Housel Regement of Meles membed the Control of Backlangham Patien, 11,49 are Forthcoming marriages Mr S. F. C. Appleron and Miss S. E. Smith

The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Appleton, of Coffs Harbour, Australia, and Sandra Elizaboth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs. Sidney Francis Smith, of Nottingham. Lord Clifton of Rathmore

and Miss P. M. Beard The engagement is announced be-

tween two, son at the Earl and Countess of Darnley, of Netherwood, Worcestershire, and Peta, daughter of Mr Roben Beard, of Scobbiscombe, South Devon, and Mrs Penny Fletcher, of Axminster,

Birthdays

Mrs Sirumayo Bandaranaike, furmer prime minister of Sri Lanka, 81; Mr Chris Barber, jazz musician, 67: Mr John Barrett, tennis commentator, 60; Miss Ruth Etchells, former Principal, St John's College, Durham, 6; Miss Clare Francis, novelist and rachtswoman, 51: Mrs Anne Harris. former national chairman. National Federation of Wamen's Institutes, 72: Miss Olivia Hussey, actress, 46; Mr Henry Kelly, television presenter, 51: Mr James Lost, bandleader, 68: The Hon Sir Humphrey Maud, deputy

Secretary General of the Commonwealth, 63; Sir Peter Morris, Profes-sor of Surgery, Oxford University, 63; Mr Riccardo Patrese, grand prix driver, 43; Mrs Dura Saint ("Miss Read"), writer, 84; Mrs Eileen Stamers-Smith, farmer Head-mistress, Malvern Girls' Cottege, 68; Sir Michael Vernon, former chairman, RNLL 71: The Right Rev John Yates, former Bishop of

Anniversaries

Births: Nikita Sergevevich Khruschchev, Russian leader, 1894; Lindsay Gordon Anderson, film, television and theatre director, 1923. Deaths: Marie de Rabutin Chantal, Marquise de Sévigne, 1696, On this day: Premium Savings Bonds were introduced in Britain, 1956; the attempted invasion of Cuba took place at the Bay of Pigs, 1961. Today is the Feast Day of St Avbert, St Donnan and Others, St Innocent of Tortona, St Mappalicus and Others, St Robert uf Chaise-Dieu and St Stephen

Lectures

National Gallery: Jacqueline Lewis, "Monet (iii): Monet and Renoir at La Grenouillère", 1pm. RIRA Architecture Centre, London W1: Alison Brooks, "Past and Future Work . 6.30m.

Prison, ex parte Francois; Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown, Mr Justice Curtis | 26 March 1997 oal Justice Act 1991 provided Lord Justice Simon Brown said

Consecutive sentences imposed by different courts on different occasions were to be aggregate ed for the purpose of calculating a prisoner's non-parole release date under the provisions of section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court refused an application for judicial review, challenging the prison authorities' calculation of the applicant's non-parole release date. The applicant had been sen-

tenced on 5 August 1993 to consecutive terms of imprisonment totalling nmeteen months' imprisonment. On 7 January 1994, at a different court, he was sentenced to two terms of four years' imprisonment, concurrent inter se but consecutive to the sentence of 19 months. Section 33(1) of the Crimi-

that it was the duty of the Home Secretary to release on licence a short-term prisoner, sentenced to a term of twelve months or more, as soon as he had served half his sentence. and to release on licence a longterm prisoner as soon as he had served two-thirds of his sentence. Section 33(5) provided that a long-term prisoner was one serving a sentence of four years or more, and a short-term prisoner was one serving a sen-

Section 51(2) of the Act provided that for the purposes of any reference to a term of imprisonment, consecutive terms and terms which were wholly or partly concurrent should be treated as a single term. Robin Allen OC and Martin Soorioo (Breeze Bentom & Co) for the applicant; Stephen Richards and Steven Kovats (Treasury Solicator) for the respondents.

tence of less than four years.

LAW REPORT
17 April 1997

that the critical question was whether the passing of the consecutive four year term in January 1994 operated to increase the time to be served under the original sentence. Did the applicant remain a short-term prisoner with regard to the original sentence so that he only had to serve one half of it, or did the sentence, by virtue of section 51(2) of the 1991 Act, become

part of a long-term sentence so

that he must serve two-thirds of

the cumulative sentence? The applicant's first difficulty was that the point appeared to have been decided against him in R v Governor of Brockhill Prison, exp Evans (Law Report 22 November 1996; [1997] 2 WLR 236). It was clearly spelled out in a passage on p 250 that the effect of section 51(2) on section 33(1) and (5)

was that even where a consec-

utive sentence had been imposed on a different occasion. gave rise to a single term. Counsel for the applicant

had submitted that that passage was obiter and ought not to be followed in the particular and different context in which the point now arose. Section 51(2) should not be read as retrospectively affecting the character of a previous sectence. The root question arising im-

der section 33 was whether, at the date when a prisoner's release was under consideration, he was a short-term or a longterm prisoner. That in turn required one to ask whether be was serving a sentence of imprisonment for a term of four years or more. In answering that crucial question, section 51(2) required that "consecutive terms ... shall be treated as a single term".

The applicant's argument necessarily involved reading

into section 51(2) words of restriction such as "provided always that they were imposed on the same occasion". There was no warrant for introducing any such major qualification into the section.

His Lordship had not the least doubt that R v Governor of Brockhill, ex parte Evans did indeed decide the present case. Not merely was it the carefully considered decision of a very strong Divisional Court specially constituted to resolve all the difficulties thrown up by earlier authorities, but the passage referred to above could be shown on analysis to constitute part of the ratio decidendi.

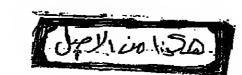
1

ĵ

**利用的过去式和过去分词** 

That said, the present case had plainly exposed certain traps against which sentencers must be on their guard. When sentencing a serving prisoner they must recognise the possihle impact of the previous sentence upon the fresh one and vice versa.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



# Which Tory party would you be voting for?

wo weeks ago John Major held up a spade and said: "This is a spade". Yesterday he held it up and said: "This is a spade - and it's a shovel, too". Two weeks ago it was a "fantasy" (his word) that ministers would publicly dissent from the Goverament's policy on Europe. On Tuesday night it emerged that they had. Yesterday the Prime Minister boldly declared that any view other than the Government's line was "folly". But he then said the fools' views were fully in line with his own. They were totally opposed to a single European currency. But they could stay in the Government because they agreed that Britain should negotiate and then decide. Black can be seen as white. Chalk can also be cheese. You do not have to mix very many more metaphors, nor do you have to make a fetish of the idea of strong leadership, to find this degree of contradiction helplessly - tragically -

There is a view that textual analysis of local election addresses on the single currency is an obsession of the media village, an abstruse game far removed from the concerns of real people. This view was forcibly expressed by Michael Heseltine yesterday. "I don't think the public out there are in the least hit interested in the niceties of the argument. But they are interested in the substance of the issue," said the Deputy PM.

Unfortunately for him, the views of ministers on the euro are the substance of the issue. And the single European currency is emphatically an issue that matters. If it goes ahead, as it still seems it will in two years' time, Britain is unlikely to be a member at the outset. The decision on membership, yes or no, may well not have to be taken in the next five years. But, if there is any prospect of our entering the single currency at some point, we have to be ready to take part in the discussion about its composition.

The "wait and see" policy (the policy that is, on the face of it, agreed by hoth Tory and Labour) is the right policy. The present design of the euro laid down in the Maastricht Treaty is flawed on democratic grounds, in that the currency would be run by politically independent central bankers. Few people are wholly convinced of its economic merits.

But if Britain hegins to suffer because it stands outside the single currency – because we endure higher interest rates and lost investment – then it may be hetter to join and seek to influence it from within rather than simply he influenced powerlessly

That is the essence of the "wait and see" case. But we have reached an extraordinary moment. Indeed, it is a historic one. Voters who agree with the wait-and-see policy, however reluc-



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-845 2435

tantly, cannot sensibly vote for the Prime Minister's party. Why? Because the Prime Minister's

Why? Because the Prime Minister's party, whatever the Prime Minister himself might say, has made it resoundingly clear that it will never countenance replacing the pound with the euro. Period. Mr Major may protest all he likes, hut it makes no difference. If he were re-elected (think this through) he would either have to ditch his waitand-see policy immediately (in which case, what's a manifesto for?), or he would have to be replaced as party leader five minutes after he won (in which case, what is this election for?).

Put that another way: Mr Major is now in the appalling position of asking the people of this country to vote on a fraudulent prospectus. The Tory manifesto says quite clearly that it is "in our national interest to keep our options open" on monetary union. But if a Tory government were re-elected, it is inconceivable that that option would be kept

That is why yesterday was a fateful day - not only in this election campaign, but in the long story of British politics. It was not because the Conservative Party seemed to be divided, although it was, but because of what it was

divided about and the consequences of that division. The parallel with the Labour Party in 1983 is not exact, but it is instructive. On 20 May 1983, with less than three weeks to go before polling day, Denis Healey, the deputy Labour leader, publicly disagreed with Michael Foot over the party's one-sided nuclear disarmament policy. This was no media mirage, but a fundamental disagreement which split the party from top to bottom on an issue of vital national importance. The unilateralists theo and the Eurosceptics now share a backward-looking notion of national autonomy — an outdated view of Britain's place in the world. The unilateralists in the early Eighties temporarily won the soul of the Labour Party — and consigned it to nearly two decades of oblivion. Draw your own comparisons.

comparisons.

Tony Blair correctly describes this as the defining moment of the election campaign. It is a moment that defines John Major as a prisoner of the Eurosceptic tendency which, win or lose, will take control of his party after the election. The calculation being made by the rats on the sinking ship is, obviously, that the Tory party has already lost any semhlance of unity, and can only win votes by trying to appeal to the supposedly popular position of overt rejection of the single currency.

Oh, but most voters are wiser than that. They know that the Tories are out

divided about and the consequences of that division. The parallel with the Labour Party in 1983 is not exact, but it is instructive. On 20 May 1983, with less than three weeks to go before polling day, Denis Healey, the deputy Labour leader, publicly disagreed with Michael Foot over the party's one-sided nuclear disarmament policy. This was no media mirage, but a fundamental

In all probability, voters will indeed draw their own conclusion. They will not need newspapers to point it out.

# Elton as the scale model

Elton John is fast hidding to become one of the nation's national treasures, a sort of pop Queen Mother. Yesterday he was awarded honorary memhership of the Royal Academy of Music, in the junior department of which he once studied. Music teachers and parents will need to make np their minds ahout the value of his example. Should they guide against his dress sense? His judgement in choosing which football team to support? Or should they merely point out how wealthy you can become if only you play your daily scales.

Greed killed our

Sir: As a sea angler of some 50

professional fishermen of this

today are largely of their own making and if they had their way now there would be little future for

country. The problems they face

My club fishes on the east coast

and over the last 20 years has seen a

spectacular decline in the cod, haddock and ling stock. In spite of

hiring the best charter boats with the latest fish-finding electronics

Amble and after eight hours' fishing our party had no sizeable

Imagine our dismay when on leaving our boar we watched a commercial boar discharge a stack

fish (National Federation of Sea Anglers rules prohibit the taking of

of fish boxes, the contents of which

were 9-10 inch codling. Completely

illegal, but who cares, there must be

a market somewhere. To deny the

and sometimes steaming out some 40 miles, catches of mature fish are becoming increasingly rare. Some three years ago we fished out of

years' experience. I find it difficult to muster much sympathy for the

fish stocks

coming generations.

# - LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

## UK can seize leadership in Europe

Sir: I recently returned from a posting with a British organisation in Taiwan. Britain is second only to the US in the huoyant market for students from Taiwan, and also the recipient of the greatest proportion of Taiwanese investment of any European country. Crucial to the United Kingdom's success in both of these fields: easy access to European markets now and, more particularly, in a more closely integrated Union; the related desire – particularly in the case of students – to gain knowledge of the workings of the European Union; and the English language.

Toyota's announcement some weeks ago about discontinuing investment if Britain did not join the single currency came as no surprise to me

surprise to me.

The English language is arguably Britain's most valuable national asset. It is the international language and will no doubt remain so, though the degree to which we continue to participate in the European Union will probably have a huge impact on the extent of its future predominance.

Britain, as a fully paid-up member of the Union, would be in an unassailable position to secure English as the Union's lingun franch. Consider the scope for the Union-wide – not to mention enhanced worldwide – exercise of British influence. Conversely, consider the lost opportunity if a Britain-less EU, or an EU in which Britain opted out of the single currency and the Social Chapter, were to choose one of its other languages. The people of the Pacific Rim are not falling over themselves to learn French and

German. Yet.
As the world divides into three trade blocs, Europe is light-years ahead of both Asia and the Americas in terms of formally constructing its bloc. Nafta is, at least in population and membership terms, smaller than the EU. In Asia, notwithstanding Ascan and Apec, there is nothing comparable. Moreover, the emerging markets of both Asia and Laun America, as well as the booming economies of the Pacific Rim. lack, as yet, the sophisticated political and legal infrastructures. not to mention the political stability, of Europe.

We are standing at the threshold of what could really be Europe's century. Who in the world, having created such a head-start for themselves, would decide to "wait and see?" I say, "Seize the day."

Britain remains a world-class performer in numerous fields. Higher education, the media, hanking and finance, the law, science and technology, the arts, all spring to mind.

Why must we keep playing the whining, hruised victim of Eurobullying instead of exercising leadership in Europe, given the overwhelming credentials we have for doing so?

MARK RAWSON

Kaulworth,

Hancickshire

Sir. I am grateful to Robert
Coppinger of the European
Movement (Letters, 15 April) for
his frank admission that the
direction of development of the
European Union towards a federal
superstate is a fait accompli. I agree
that the British government formed
after the election, whether Labour
or Conservative, will not be able to
change that.



In the unlikely event that it were Liberal Democrat, it would not wish to.

This is precisely why the Green Party, at our annual conference last autumn, voted to argue for British withdrawal from the EU. As presently constituted there is no prospect of the EU permitting member states to adopt the Green policies that are essential for a sustainable future for our country and others.

The Inter-Governmental
Conference, by increasing and
widening the powers of the
European Union to impose
unsustainable policies, will only
make matters worse.
JOHN NORRIS
Convener
Green Party International
Policy Group
Richmond upon Thames.

Sir: The hald "Wait and see" policy adopted by both Tories and Labour over the question of European Monetary Union is an abnegation of national leadership ("Party leaders play the sceptic card", 15 Aprill. It is a cop-out, made not for the national interest but to satisfy Euro-sceptics in both parties. Of course it is wise to assemble all the

facts before making a decision; but

to assemble the facts in a vacuum of

intent is cowardice.

When the time comes to make a decision about joining or not, there will be no real choice available unless deliberate policies have been followed to meet the convergence criteria, so that any decision to join can in fact be implemented, DENYS WHATMORE Chelenham, Gloucestershire

# The horror of grammar schools

Sir: The Tory plan to provide large grants to schools to become selective ("'Go grammar' lure for schools", 14 April) prays on the snobbery and prejudice of vulnerable parents which has already caused so much inequity in

UK education.
To anyone, like me, who was dumped into a poor secondary school in the late 1940s, due to the 11-plus selection examination, the thought of their return must fill them with horror. Many of these schools were an educational disaster where every child thought they had failed and would fail for the rest of their life – from the age of 11. They were divisive, had the poorest resources and naturally attracted the poorer teachers. There was an entrenched attitude with an unspoken theme which said, "Just hide your time here until you are old enough to go to

work."
Rather than some schools getting more money, high-quality education should be for all, powered by good teachers and the best management and a government committed to equal opportunity.
EDDIE BEDWELL Swindon, Wilhilm

Sir: Two of the Conservative Party's manifesto proposals on education would spell disaster for the majority of children in areas where

there is a fully comprehensive secondary system, and would be particularly destructive in rural

palls of the country.

With one in five secondary schools developing subject specialisations and another hecoming a selective (rejective) grammar school (Ta grammar school in every town 1), we are left with three out of every five schools degenerating into lacklustre secondary-modern status.

These would be underfunded, would be short of well-qualified specialist teachers and would inevitably occupy very modest positions in the examination league tables.

It is not difficult to imagine what would happen to the educational prospects and to the self-esteem of the pupils, especially the late developers, as their schools start the downward spiral resulting from the loss of their fair share of the more able intake.

Under the manifesto proposals, it would take the parents of only one school to vote for selective grammar status for the fully comprehensive pattern to collapse. Around 85 per cent of the children in the new grammar school's original catchment area would have to be bussed to other schools, so destroying the links between school and the communities to which the children belong.

We can only trust that these

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056;

e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk, E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

proposals are never implemented. D H KEDGE Y REDGE Sonning Common, Oxfordshire

# Devastating cut in benefit

Sir: Martin Movlan (Letters, 16
April) is quite right about the
devastating effect of the singleroom-rent measure on housing
henefit for landlords. The effect on
tenants will he even worse since
there is not enough shared
accommodation to go round.
Liberal Democrats would revoke
these regulations and will force a
vote on them at the earliest
opportunity in the next parliament.
DIANA MADDOCK
Liberal Democrat
Spokesperson on
Housing, Women's Issues
and Family Policy

Curb the plough
Sir: The ploughing of the orchidrich downland at Offham, Sussex
("Orchids wilt in farmer's field of
flax", 12 April) should not be seen

simply as a consequence of the flax

subsidy which seems to have

London SIVI

prompted it.

There are many reasons why farmers may find it more profitable to destroy downland turf than to accept such subsidies as may be available for conserving it. If we really want to protect scarce wildlife habitat, we should not rely on trying to doctor the agricultural subsidy regime. Still less should we embark on the hopeless task of trying to inflate subsidies for

conservation to levels at which they

would outweigh all other possible

sonrees of gain.

The time has come to apply controls which would simply forbid agricultural activity which would destroy important habitat which is in short supply. The ploughing of downland is now one such activity for which farmers should have to seek planning permission, as we all have to seek permission for any significant change which we wish to make to the huilt environment.

MARION SHOARD

London SW20

#### Intolerable

Sir. "Zero tolerance", that sexy phrase of the moment intoned by politicians and policemen, does not have the American origins they

The term actually originated in Edinburgh, where the district council used it to promote their widely respected campaign against sexual harassment "Zero Tolerance of Violence against Women". Then it made the journey across the Atlantic and has now returned to Britain as a slogan against crime.

In Cambridge, where the Students' Union launched an antisexual harassment campaign in 1989, we too have returned to the slogan. This year we aim to make the University a Zero Tolerant Zone for sexual harassment. But even here you have to be careful with its meaning. One of my friends has recently been concerned that my proclaiming myself "zero tolerant" obviously has something to do with my low alcohol intake. ZOE THIRLWELL Trining Hall,

#### scientific evidence on North Sea stocks is typical of people who now lament about quota-hopping when they themselves sold away their

fishing rights.

Perhaps, on reflection, I should have some sympathy for these people. After 18 years of Tory government, encouraging "grah what you can today, don't consider others tomorrow", they are no different from a lot of other people. D MOTTERSHEAD Thelwall, Cheshire.

# History of your house

Sir: Rosalind Russell's piece on the history of London houses ("Who's been living in your house?", 12 April) touches on the fascinating past of some London bouses, hut implies that researching the history of a house is best left to professional researchers and ignores the wealth of source material available in London local authority record offices and local history libraries.

Most London boroughs' local studies services hold sources useful for house historians, including maps, historic street directories, local rate and taxation records, and visual records. Some produce leaflets outlining sources for the potential house historian. Details of these local services are given in London Local Archives, published by the Greater London Archives Network.

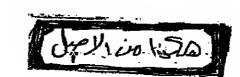
While some readers may prefer to have their house history done for them, it is much more exciting – and considerably cheaper – to do your own research, and have all the satisfaction of discovering the history of your own house for yourself.

youiseil DAVID MANDER Chairman, Greater London Archives Network London N22

## Shoot the Tories!

Sir: I have some sympathy with Polly Toynbee's inclination to go out on 2 May with clipboard and revolver to shoot Conservative voters ("The horror of a new hine dawn", 14 April) should they have achieved victory for Mr Major. In my dream, however. I shoot

In my dream, however. I shoot the offenders before they vote rather than afterwards. RICHARD CAPERON Edgmond, Shronshire



# Yes, we have no Bahamas. But

Britain still has a handful of tiny dependencies, the last outposts of a once great empire, to muck up. Paul Vallely looks at the latest upheavals in St Helena, once home to Napoleon

obituary of Larry Grayson, the pursed posturer who apparently appeared "at the Finsbury Park and Chiswick Empires during the last days of Variety. Thus it ends, that glorious enterprise on which the sun was never to set. Either there or in the Ruritanian flummery of the British dependent territories with their plume-helmeted governors and their £6,000 ceremonial uniforms

One such is St Helena, perhaps the most isolated of Britain's colonial remnants. It stands in the South Atlantic more than 1,000 miles off the coast of Africa - balfway between Angola and Brazil - a dark island "rising like an enor-mous black wart from the face of the deep," in the words of Napoleon Bonaparte. But then he was biased. This was his final place of exile for the six years until the defeated French

emperor died in 1821. St Helena is in the news, and in a way it bas not been since Prince Andrew visited the island in 1984 and the Goverpor fell into the sea in full ceremonial dress as he tried to greet him. There has been what is said to pass for a riot among its 6,000 inhabitants. An angry crowd is reported to have set fire to the island's only police van. There have been demonstrations over cuts in the subsidy from London. Two of the five members of the island's executive council bave resigned in protest, complaining of the "dictatorial" approach of the career-diplomat Governor, David Smallwood, who has fled the island by boat from which he pronounced by ship-to-shore fax: "There is no crisis on St

Helena, constitutional or otherwise." All jolly good stuff. Until you telephone the island and find your inquiries are greeted with a weary sigh and the inquiry: "Is the British general election so boring that you have nothing

recently inspected by Her Majesty's former chief inspec-tor of prisons, Stepben Tumim - on remand after starting a number of blazes in a row with

 The island's subsidy has agreed to the councillors' request for an early general election, to be held on July 9.

• The Governor has gone on a long-planned boliday to the

There is more to it than that, of course. For a start there was the refusal of the Governor to endorse the election of one Bobby Robertson to fill one of the two vacant posts. Mr Smallwood objected to him on the grounds that almost exactly a year ago a mob, fuelled by Mr Robertson, burst into the Governor's office in The Castle at Jamestown and seized Mr Smallwood by the gubernator-ial tie. They then proceeded to occupy the place for more than three bours, protesting at the low rate of unemployment benefits on the island. "They grabbed my tie and pulled me by the throat," the Governor protested at the time. Tiepulling is a heavy duty business on an island where people would not dream of passing in

began to outweigh the benefits to grant independence to Britam's larger colonies, in the belief that they might be eco-nomically viable (had they not been, in most cases, left with such inherently imbalanced Despite their former enormous post-colonial economic struc- strategic importance, they now tures). But with the smaller seem too quaint to be seriously dependencies it was not so simple, which is why we still have 14 - until, that is, the

"empire" and "last days of into our library database and it comes up with the specific comes up to specific

been cut from £3.7m to £3.2 m after a tough round of negotiations with the Overseas Development Administration. Two councillors bave resigned in protest and the Governor has

the street without saying hello. But there is a grimmer reality. It was comparatively simple after the Second World War when the burdens of empire

his girlfriend.

Last Post at midnight on 30 June at the New Convention

else to write about?" The facts, Black Watch bugler plays the 6,000 from mixed British and



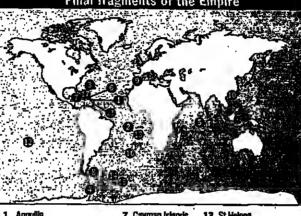
Colonial legacy: the troubled island of St Helena, and (right) the Governor of Bermuda. Lord Waddington, in full feathered flummery

Centre in Hong Kong.

After getting sbot of the
Bahamas and other dependen-

cies, the remnant of empire today consists in Bermuda. Gibraltar and five Caribbean territories - Anguilla, Montserrat, the Cayman Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the British Virgin Islands. There are also four South Atlantic dependencies - the British Antarctic (population: 300 scientists), the Falklands Islands, the whaling stations South Georgia and South Sand-wich and St Helena and Dependencies (which include Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha). In addition there are - in the Pacific - Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno islands (total population: 50; chief income: postage stamps). And there is the British Indian Ocean Territory (population: 0 since all the inhabitants were evicted to make way for the US military base on Diego Garcia). True, Spain and Argentina want Gibraltar and the Malvinas back, but the rest of it summons

politically incorrect. St Helena has its share of



8. Falkland Islands

British Antarctic Territory 5. British Indian Ocean Territory

9. Gibralta 10. Hong Kong 12. Pilicalm Island 6. British Virgin Islands

Indian descent, has virtually

no natural resources and no air-

port. The Colonial Prisoners Removal Act 1884 has never been repealed, giving the Crown the power to exile trou-blesome subjects to St Helena. But visitors report a splendid old-fashioned friendliness to the "Hillman-driving, pound-spending, royalty-loving, pet-owning citizenry" who are so

well-adjusted that when television was introduced last year instead of becoming sullen, couch potatoes infatuated by drugs, promiscuous sex and violence researchers discovered that St Helena's already well-behaved children bad become more social, more ami-

cable, more helpful.

beart of the apple. The latest figures show the island imported goods worth £4,692,000, but its exports earned it only £145,000. Once the island had a single cash crop - flax - from which its people used to make string, but the British Post Office, the island's biggest customer, went over to nylon twine in the Sixties. The economy has never recovered. It has some exports in canned

of islanders work directly or indirectly for the government. As the Whitehall subsidy has been reduced unemployment has risen; over the past two years it has gone from 9 to 18 per cent. And a baby boom will place an extra 300 in the workforce by 2005.

14. South Georgia

16. Tristan da Comha

15. South Sandwich Island

Anxieties over unemployment are what lie behind the disagreement between St Helena councillors and the Governor. The island receives more than £9m a year, the highest amount per head of British why ties can be strained.

ride with his 52-strong entourage. (His grave is not there, for the British allowed his coffin to be disinterred 20 years after his death, but the houses where he lived are wellpreserved.) And tourism received a boost recently with the replacement of the hazardous landing stage with steps. Passengers used to have to grab a rope and leap to the seaweedcovered dock as their hoat rose as much as eight feet in the swell. When it was too rough islanders had to watch in dismay as liners like the Canherra turned away without putting a single passenger ashure. Today passengers can simply step ashore, holding an iron railing. But the task of finding work off the island so that locals can

fields and wooded hills in which

Napoleon was once at liberty to

take sbort-term contracts and send money home - as they did in the past - has been scuppered by the 1981 Immigration Act. This legislation, in an attempt to avert any flood of Hong Kong Chinese, bans the residents of all the dependencies from settling in Britain. After the Act was passed the Falkland Islanders and the Gibraltarians were exempted dents of St Helena can now seek work is on the military ? base on Ascension and in the Falkland Islands, to which emigration has increased by 30 per

curious cocktail of exploitation and benevolence, cruelty and paternalism, ignominy and glory. Certainly it lacked the ruthlessness of the Spaniards in Latin America, Belgians in the Congo or French in Algeria and Indo-China, Norwas its end for the British and their subjects accompanied by the appalling bloodshed with which some others came to a close, which is perhaps wby the Commonwealth is still a valued and indeed a growing organisation. But its last gasp is not without its pain. For all the small-town Puncb-and-Judy politics. For all the feathery flummery.



# If you are planning a baby, start here



Worldwide studies show that even with a good diet, extra specific nutrients may be very important - during and even before pregnancy. FOLIC ACID is vital to the development of your unborn baby. But it is not the only nutrient

Pregnacare contains the recommended level of 400mcg folic

a careful balance of 15 other vitamins and minerals to safeguard your requirements during pregnancy.

Pregnacare replaces your usual multivitamin. It is recommended from several weeks before conception, right through to the end of breast feeding. So, if you're already pregnant, or could be soon, start with Pregnacare



Developed by experts for before and during pregnancy

Tet: Otat 963 0999

Available from Boots stores, Tesco, Superdrug, chemists, health food stores and Holland & Barrett. \$4.95 per month's supply.



# Who can we trust? Certainly not the voters going through the same ritual dance of death with

Today – an election forum special! How is the election being conducted by the main parties?

In a sophisticated, sensible way, as befits a mature

Could you give an example Certainly. The Tory party is paying thousands of pounds for the erection of notices saying BRITAIN IS BOOMING DON'T LET LABOUR BLOW IT and Labour is replying with a poster campaign saying TIME FOR A CHANGE -LET'S CHUCK THEM

In what way is this sophisticated and sensible? It is sophisticated and sensible as compared to the way parliamentary business is conducted in the House of Commons debating chamber.

How are the two main party leaders behaving? Very maturely. They are insisting on keeping to the And what are the issues? The issues are that you

can't trust Phoney Tony and

you can't vote for the Party

of Sleaze.

should all vote Lib Dem? Yes. Except that that would be a wasted vote. Who says that?

The two main parties. So the two main parties do agree on something? Yes, they agree on that. They agree on lots of other things too - on education and health and transport and

investment and ... What do they say about all these things? That they should be a lot better.

But surely if the Tories have been in power for 18 years, they should already have improved education and health and all these things? Ah, but the Tories would say that they have put

MORE money into education and MORE money into prisons and MORE money into health and MORE money into ... And have they actually put more money into all these

And have they got better, all these things? No. They have just put more money in, that's all.

Don't forget that the Tories



Miles Kington

find it hard to tell the difference between putting money into something and making it better.

I see. So, has it been a good election so far? Yes, if you have been on holiday in Paraguay or trapped in a snow-storm in

Is there nothing good about it at all? Yes. It means we have heard nothing from the Ulster Unionists for a while. Is that good?

Oh, yes. For the last six

months the Tories had been

What did that mean? It meant they would vote for the Government. The only time we ever hear from the Unionists is when there is a hung parliament. Consequently, we must all pray that there is not a hung parliament.

the Unionists to preserve

their slim majority, and the

media had been going sick with excitement at the idea

that the Government might

a close vote, the media

they would back the

Government, and the

would ask the Unionists if

Unionists always said, "We

will make up our minds on

the issues involved on the

tumble. Every time there was

Have there been any unusual features in this

Yes. Both sides are content to remind the electorate of the same thing - the record of the Tory party.

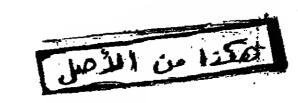
They both harp on that? Yes. From different angles. of course. Tory sources tend to emphasise how wise Tory policies have made Britain the most prosperous country

in the history of the world. Labour sources tend to emphasise the way Tory policies permitted the BSE crisis, the Scott report, the E coli outbreak, Black Thursday, the running down of our public transport ...

Was the E coli outbreak really caused by the Tories? No. It was caused by Scottish inefficiency in the kitchen. When food is properly prepared, the bacteria are killed. But no party dares to criticise the

Are the public in fact stupid, dishonest, greedy, etc? Of course, in a democracy, most people are unfit to vote. Luckily, this is balanced by the fact that most candidates are unfit to stand.

Tomorrow we ask such vital questions as, Are Michael Howard and Douglas Hogg dead or merely locked away in a cupboard somewhere to stop them speaking? Has anyone mentioned Northern Ireland in the election? If there was a hung parliament, would we all go to Aintree ou the Monday and vote again? Don't miss Election Forum Special tomorrow!



...

# Major has been fishing in troubled waters

here he stands, plucky little fellow. No pasaran! John Major cries. The armada of filthy, thieving Spanatmada of nithy, thieving Spanish fishing boats, stealing our fish and our fishing quotas, shall not pass! British hearts of oak and jolly tars shall rule the European waves – even if there is no fish left in them. Hurray!

In defiance of the European ministers' decision to cut all fishing by 30 per cent, to try to save endangered fish and rescue the long-term prospects for the control of the entire European fishing indus-try, the Prime Minister announced that he would hreak the law: "I have not a shred of mtention of cutting the British catch unless and until we have a satisfactory agreement on quota-hopping." (It was embarrassingly revealed that, at the crucial ministers meeting, the British minister had failed to

speak up at all on the subject.)
But how did we, uniquely among European countries, come to sell our precious fishing quota licences to foreigners in the first place?

This is yet another story of the British government blaming its own incompetence and folly on Brussels, Major's bluster on fishing is the BSE story all over again, a paradigm of the dishonesty with which this government has treated Europe and misled the British electorate about the nature of the European Union and the part we play

This is the true story of fishing quotas. Trying to preserve fish stocks, the EU gave each country a fishing quota and a target for reducing the size of its fishing fleet. The EU offered an

up their boats and compensate them, paying 70 per cent of the cost, with each country mak-

none of their quotas were sold abroad. So how, all of a sudden, is Brussels to blame for British

price to persuade foreign owners to sell. And we would have to offer the same high price to any British fishermen too, so there might be a stampede to sell. The British government want. If not, then everyone else will design their would end up in the absurd position of having bought itself a nationalised fishing fleet at an ensure that British is excluded from trade with bought itself a nationalised fishing fleet at an

astronomical price.



**Polly** Toynbee Commentator of the Year

The government could end up in the absurd position of having bought itself a

nationalised fleet at an inflated price

incentive to any fishermen want-ing to get out of the business, promising to buy election. Some 200 of his mutinous crew are

ing up the difference.
But, until 1992, Britain refused to pay up that 30 per cent to retiring captains, even though it meant forgoing the 70 per cent EU grant. It was the kind of short-sighted, shorttermist meanness that has characterised so much of government in the last 18 years. In allowed the market to rip, and captains to sell. tape. But we hear little of how those same fairtheir boats and quotas to the highest bidders. often from abroad. All the other countries made full use of the EU compensation scheme, forking out the 30 per cent and so virtually

fishermen's lost quotas?
But what, exactly, is Major proposing? If we bought back the quotas sold abroad we would have to offer well above the current market

The fishermen are naturally outraged at the prospect of any cuts - but their anger has been misdirected at Brussels, with much deft encouragement from the Euro-sceptics. Remember the bizarre sight of canary-clad Teresa Gorman on a Cornish trawler? In fact there are virtually the same number of British fishermen as there were 20 years ago, and the same tonnage of British-owned ships. (Astonishingly, we allowed the number of fishing boats to increase in the late Eighnies, despite EU conservation policy.) But not so the fish. They are dying out, rewards. a crisis. In the last 30 years the amount of cod in the North Sea has come down by two-thirds, plaice by half, and haddock by

Inree-quarters.
John Major's last stand on his fish box is all empty gesture. But can Labour do any better? Yesterday in public they echoed the same sentiments: they may refuse to ratify the forthcoming. IGC until quota-hopping is addressed. But Gavin Strang, Labour's spokesman, sounded more emolient: "We are hoping that there will be a lot of readwall a whole product the stranger of the str goodwill, a whole new rela-tionship with Europe." He talks of approaching Europe with the problem and asking for help, a positive attitude in a changed climate of relations. After all, it is not Labour's fault that Britain has sold so much of its quota. For the EU to put up money to buy it back would be generous indeed - but Labour's amicable attitude may achieve more than Tory sabrerattling. At least they start with a clean slate, after the years of

atrocious British behaviour.

The story of fish stands as another exemplar of our catastrophic European past. As with so much European policy, whether or not we belonged to the EU we would still have to make international agreements about fishing rights and fish conservation. Fish know no territorial limits, so one country's self-restraint, is destroyed by another's overfishing. National greed, especially in conservation and pollution, can be overcome only by international agreement.

John Major's leaky policy ship was bound to be holed by the male holes. firing anti-European salvos in their local elec-

tion campaigns in a frantic last hid for the lifeboats, even if they sink their ship. Precious few politicians of any party are making the pro-European case. And so we have an electorate grown frighteningly anti-European out of fear and ignorance.

The Europhobes fill the voters' cars with poison about the things Brussels makes us do trade regulations work in our favour.

Just a few recent examples: EU judgements forced the Italians to give up a luxury car tax designed to drive out British Jaguar. The Greeks were forced to let in British drinks, the Spanish our chewing gum, the Germans and Dutch our car wheels; Orly airport was forced to allow BA flights, France to license British ski instructors, and everyone to open public works contracts to British companies.

EU pettifogging, nit-picking regulations that undermine national sovereignty are the stuff of free trade, if free trade is what you them. Amid myths about straight bananas and fishermen's hairnets, the essential purpose and nature of the European Union cludes a British electorate that has been uniquely misinformed and misled by cowardly politicians.

It is too much to expect Labour in midelection to blow the European trumpet. We can only hope that afterwards they will begin the gradual process of introducing the British to the benefits of co-operation, instead of hostile confrontation. Fish will be Labour's first test of whether their gentler approach yields richer

# Breaking the rules of the gentlemen's club

by Louise Jury

here is a rifle range and 11 bars but no creche. The priori-ties in the facilities at the House of Commons say it all.

A male preserve run like a gentlemen's club, the splash of colour from a Teresa Gorman blouse or a Harriet Harman suit was a striking variation on the ranks of navy and grey on the benches last parliament. But with a change of govern-ment now likely, another poten-tially far-reaching change is on the cards - for the first time, more than 100 women may be elected to the House.

There are some who can barely believe this is possible. Lesley Abdela, who 17 years ago founded the 300 Group to try to get as many women as men into Parliament, says she had hoped there would be 90. "If there's 100 I'll be cracking open the champagne. I'll be over the moon," she said yesterday. A detailed breakdown of can-

didates and percentage swings carried out by the campaigning organisation the Fawcett Society suggest that, on current voting intentions, women will be flexing their muscles at every stage of the legislative process in the next parliament. With an 8 per cent swing to Labour, there will be perhaps 111 women MPs - including 92 Labour and 15 Tories - out of the 659 members. A six per cent swing could still push the total over the 100 mark. And that, say women of all parties, could be "critical mass". They would be no longer the odd ones out, square feminine pegs in round

"MPs at the moment talk as if male experience is the norm," said Mary-Ann Stephenson of the Fawcett Society, "Injecting the women's perspective into debates is going to be a signif-icant breakthrough."

For the Tories, new faces

likely to he having their say at Westminster include Anne McIntosh, a married lawyer, married and a commercial negotiator. For Labour, there is Louise Ellman, a mother of two and Open University counselfor, and Yvette Cooper, an economics journalist. Others in the running include Barbara Follett, the image consultant and wife of the novelist Ken, and Lorna Fitzsimons, the former president of the National Union of Students.

Some well-known faces are likely to disappear, of course. Edwina Currie looks vulnerable, and the Conservatives could end up with only 10 women MPs compared with 25 last time. Glenda Jackson, who swapped her acting career for Labour politics, has a fight on against four female rivals - in Hampstead, north London. Regardless of individual for-

tunes, Janet Anderson, Labour's spokeswoman on women's affairs, believes the overall effect would be huge. First of all visually," she says. When people turn on their not one that appeals to many minister in Norway, saving she



# Women are poised to gain more power in Parliament than ever before. The knock-on effect will be to change the House's culture

televisions they will see on our side maybe 80 or 100 women. They are less likely to feel it's run like an exclusive gentlemen's club because it won't look like one.

The knock-on effect will be to change the culture of West-"Women are so used to juggling their lives that they want to put their time to best use. I think women will stand up in the Commons, say what they have to say and sit down. We may end up with a more business-like approach." The oppressiveness of the

present culture should not be underestimated. Baroness Williams, a Cabinet member in the last Labour government and now a Liberal Democrat, says women were an "endangered species" when she was first an MP.

When she returned under the SDP banner in 1981 after an 18-month absence, she was reminded what an "extraordinary way it was to run the country. "It's crazy," she said. "Most women - and it has got nothing to do with ability - find that atmosphere intolerable.

A system where the method of discussion is highly adversarial and where most of the votes take place after 10pm is women, she believes. And it is knew the culture had changed difficult to reconcile with having a family.

places making better long-term here." decisions, not because the Scanture of government pays more respect to women, she says. "Men [m Britain] have made room for women, but they have not made changes for them."

Electing women will help to change the system, thereby enabling more women to get into government and revolutionise what and how decisions are reached, "I think it's going to make the country better run," says Baroness Williams. She joins the Fawcett Society

and Janet Anderson in naming a number of policy issues more likely to be addressed once women have a grip on power. No woman would set up a system of pensions based on a lifetime's ability to work when it is obvious that it will not provide for many women, they point out. Child care should move up the agenda alongside domestic violence and the health service.

Baroness Williams says: "I can remember Gro Harlem Brundtland, the [last] prime

when a minister asked if he could leave cabinet 10 minutes By contrast, Scandinavian early to pick up his child. You

dinavians are better than the own best supporters. Edwina MP Ann Winterton opposed

But Mrs Currie is keen to emphasise the feminine touch". She worked with the Ministry of Defence, not on tanks and weapons, but on Army housing. Gulf war syndrome and bullying. The armed forces approach is macho. I took an interest in a

adopt a "more militant attitude" to issues affecting women and children, and that the "chaps won't feel able to laugh and pooh-pooh" anything women said. This has certainly been the hahit of some in the past. The

She predicts women would take strength in numbers and

Tory MP David Evans, in one of his more controversial outbursts, made his contempt for his female colleagues clear. Women in Parliament were "usually ordinary", he said. They were promoted even when "dead from the neck upwards"

pected many of the new grop of women would be very good. not least because they would have had to fight particularly hard to get there. But as the numbers increased, the women would be like the men - some brilliant, others less so, a reflection of the population they represented.

# The Angela factor floors Poor John

he Tory party could do without the two Angelas. First, Mrs Browning, a junior agriculture minister, disregards the agreement reached on the matter of a European single currency, that the party should "wait and see". Unable to resist playing the "patriotic card", she emharrasses the Prime Minister, who is forced publicly to give her the benefit

1000

§ % 10

1.7

tactions.

Appellation of

तक्ष्मकृतिक स्थापनी करें। स्थापनी करें।

Men har i ft. "

Barrier II

gerak in in Africa

emely and are

\$\$66.145 mg. "

The Mymetry

the the

· Buller 18 all are to be

Admid. Hen'l w''' Appended to men

of the doubt. No sooner has one Angela lapsed into obscurity than yet another, this time Dame Angela Rumbold, no less, the Tory party's vice chairman in charge of candidates, comes out with a resounding attack on the whole notion of a common currency. "Poor John" was sheepishly obliged to let her off lightly. He found a form of words to claim she did not quite mean what she

all too clearly said. What would happen were John Redwood, Michael Portillo, Michael Howard and Peter Lilley to write in the same vein? Will their election addresses contain a patriotic defence of sterling as an essential pillar in the British way of life? Leaving aside the debate on Europe which has been permitted to go by default, John Major cannot sack members of his Cabinet half way through an election campaign. He will quite simply have to grin and bear it. He



## Julian Critchley What a

shame that Heseltine is silent and that the party has not had leadership

on Europe

would be made to look a fool. Tory scandals were sexual; have increased steadily over countries of the Pacific rim? and the party's divisions made

Yesterday's papers were full of exultant headlines. The Daily Telegraph: "Major defied as ministers break ranks"; The Times: "Tories rush into ranks of Euro-sceptics"; and The Guardian: "PM ducks sacking rebel ministers". Even Michael Forsyth, a cabinet minister, has lined up with the Euro-sceptics. But he is likely to lose his seat.

If it has not been "sleaze", it has been disunity. Sexual misbehaviour is of no importance, save to the families of the MP concerned. If Piers Merchant was a fool, then the editor of The Sun was a knave in offering a 17-year-old "night-club hostess" £50,000 in order to enspare him. What is more important is the activity of public relations companies like lan Greer Associates in recruiting various officers of the Tory backbench trade and industry committee to do their dirty work for them.

What has happened to the old Tory party? Did it vanish with the coming of Margaret Thatcher?

In the 1960s, Profumo and Lambton made love for fun, not money. Today, David Mellor takes the media by storm. It when unpromoted, they get bored to be remarked when 1 bored. Although the parlia-

Labour ones, financial. Eighteen years of office have seen a series of Tory MPs embrace them both with cheerful alacrity. Why?

There are several reasons. In the first instance, the old ballast of the party is long dead and buried. MPs who entered Parhament as an extension of their sense of social obligation, or who had distinguished wartime records, were honourable men. They would not have touched the Greers of this world with a barge pole. If they wished to influence government policy, they went to see their whips, or

the minister himself. Secondly, the long years of onvernment have seen a seachange in the kind of Tory who gets himself elected. The upper and the educated classes have withdrawn, by and large, from constituency activity, leaving the choice of candidate to the second-rate. It is hardly surprising that the "new Conservatives" looked into the mirror and plumped for their own

reflection. Thirdly, it is now the case that almost every Tory MP wants to become a minister, which was certainly not so in the 1940s and 1950s. Today, was first elected in 1959, that mentary salary and allowances the years, most MPs attempt to double their income, some by writing (as I have done), others by taking advantage of the blandishments of lobbyists.

The same might be true of the Labour Party, hut no lobbyist would hire a Labour MP to influence a Tory minister. and the media seems to have turned a blind eye to the pec-cadillos of members of the People's Party. If Labour is returned to office, the situation will quickly change. The saddest thing about the

Tory campaign is not the gim-mickry - chickens stuffed with out-of-work actors - but the way in which the case for European integration has been permitted to go by default.

We threaten Europe with non-cooperation yet still expect them to meet our point of view over fish and beef. Not since the Prime Minister said in 1992 that "Britain should stand at the heart of Europe" has there been a concerted effort to make the case for a common currency. Only Ken Clarke can claim credit for a robust defence of a development which it must be in Britain's interest to join. Could a Britain isolated from Europe stand alone as a trading nation in a world dominated by the euro, the yen, and the dollar,

The question has only to be posed for the answer to become obvious.

What do we get instead? A defeatism reminiscent of Vichy In which spa will a Portillo-led Tory opposition make its headquarters? Will it be Leaming ton, Bath or Cheltenham? We are treated to those two old buzz-words "identity" and "sovereignty". Even were there to be a United States of Europe. France would remain French. the Netherlands Dutch, Italy Italian. England and Wales were joined in 1536. Has any Eurosceptie ever been to Cardiff Arms Park to see England play Wales?

And as for sovereignty, it is a commodity like any other. By joining Nato we relinquished our power to decide between peace and war. By transferring a proportion of our gold reserves to a central bank in Frankfurt, we will share sovereignty, not lose it. What a shame it is that Malcolm Rifkind has replaced Douglas Hurd, that Michael Heseltine remains silent on this issue, and that the Tory party has not had the leadership over Europe

Sir Julian Critchley was, until the Dissolution, Tory MP for to say nothing of China and the Aldershot.

parliaments are saner, calmer can't imagine that happening

Women are not always their help for women with children going out to work because she thought they should not. And Dame Jill Knight opposed a creche at the Commons.

different way, in a different

However, ordinary or not, the point is that women's voices will finally make themselves heard at Westminster, "We're well on the way now. But we can't sit back yet. One hundred down, 200 more to go."

## WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IN **HOME INSURANCE?**

#### Low premiums for people over 50 SAGA Home Insurance is tailor made especially

for people aged 50 and over at surprisingly low

#### Price Promise? Find another policy offering the same cover as

SAGA Hame Insurance for a lower premium within 2 months of taking out your policy and we will refund the difference.

## Experience?

Saga is at the forefront in providing a hrnad range nf financial services specifically designed for people aged 50 and over.

## Quick, efficient claims service?

With SAGA Home Insurance, often one call is all it takes to settle a claim - in most cases with no complicated claim forms to complete.

## Free services?

SAGA Home Insurance offers free helplines for 24hr dnmestic help, legal advice and a glazing service. Also free in the first year are Frozen Food, Money and Credit Card Cover, worth £750

## Call Now

Ask for a quotation, even if your renewal date is months away, and see how much you could

# 0800 414 525

Please quoting reference ID4710

# business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

# US tobacco companies set for landmark \$300bn settlement

David Usborne New York and Jeremy Laurance

Looking to escape a legal nightmare, America's two largest tohacco companies have opened secret talks with plaintiffs for a settlement that could entail a payout worth \$300hn (£185bn) - more than the gross domestic product of Beigium and almost as much as

denote a remarkable turn-about in the titanic struggle between the tobacco giants and their multiple courtroom foes. They could also have a favourable knock-on effect on legal action being taken in the UK against

tobacco companies.
Industry stocks soared on the news on both sides of the Attantic. In early trading on Wall Street. Philip Morris shares rose more than 6 per cent to \$41.50; in London the price of BAT shares added 28p to 541p.

Experts warned the negotiations were at a very early stage and faced myriad obstacles before they could be concluded successfully. Most importantly, the central goal of the tobacco firms - to obtain immunity from all future liability lawsuits - would need the passage of new laws by Congress.

Central to that tegislation would be the creation of a smokers' compensation fund. It would be fed by the \$300bn or whatever figure might be settled upon - which would be paid

by the industry over 25 years. Under the deal, the tobacco companies would also accept government proposals to place cigarettes uoder the regulatioo of the Food and Drug Administration, abandon all biliboard advertising and agree to exorcise all human beings from

Diane Coyle

**Economics Editor** 

Figures showing unemployment

down, earnings growth up, and

lower-than-forecast Govern-

ment borrowing last financial

year confirmed City analysts in

the view that interest rates

need to rise after the election

without dispersing the wide-

spread gloom about the state of

The Conservatives were swift

to point to the buoyant state of

the economy. A fresh row about

the distortions to the beadline

number of benefit claimants

could not overshadow a batch

uf upbeat figures on joblessness,

employment, vacancies and pay.

Kenneth Clarke also repeat-

ed his claim that the Govern-

ment budget was on track to

balance by 2000. But critics said

the public finances.

The talks, in Washington, and Steven Goldstone for RJR Nabisco - have both attended

states that are suing the industry, lawyers for the numerous individual lawsuits also pending as well as representatives of anti-smoking advocacy groups. The White House confirmed yesterday it has also heen taking part in a monitoring role. Taking the lead for the industry has been Philip Morris and RJR Nabisco. Indeed, the chiefs of both companies - Geoffrey Bible for Philip Morris

range of interests including officials from some of the 23 US

negotiating sessions. The companies have been speaking also for BAT and its US subsidiary, Brown & Williamson, and Lorillard of Loews Corp. That the industry would eventually be driven to seeking a negotiated truce bas been widely predicted. In recent

weeks, it has watched the legal

pressure against it mount. Crucial was the decisioo last month by the Liggett Group, America's smallest cigarette company, to strike its own deal with the 22 suing states. Liggett bas handed over industry documents that may prove deeply incriminating. Also sounding alarm bells is a private lawsuit just starting in Florida against R J Revnolds.

In the Florida case, the plaintiff's lawyer is Norwood Wilner, wbo last year won \$750,000 in damages for a client against Brown & Williamson. It was the first time the industry was forced to make such a payout and possibly the point at which it realised that its legal difficulties were insurmountable.

Even a few months ago, the concessions being discussed in the negotiations would have been unthinkable for the industry. It was only in 1993, for instance, that the chiefs of all the

the Public Sector Borrowing

Requirement (PSBR) last fi-

nancial year was, at £22.8bn.

rate fell to 6.1 per cent, its low-

est for six years, last month. A

fall of 41,100 took the total num-

The Office for National Sta-

tistics cautiously admitted the

underlying rate of fall in the to-

tal was higher than the 15,000-

20,000 a month it had estimated

before the introduction of the

Jobseekers' Allowance in Oc-

Labour repeated its accusa-

tion that the headline figure was fiddled. TUC general secre-

tary John Monks said: "The fall

in the numbers able to claim benefits is giving a misleading

ber of claimants to 1,707,000.

The beadline unemployment

some £3.6bn below target.

- Tobacco was introduced to Europe from the New World at the end of the 15th century. Smoking spread rapidly
- and was long regarded as having medicinal value.

  Smoking only became a mass habit at the start of this century, and it was not until after the Second Wood War that the health dangers were identified.

  More than 100 billion cigarettes are soid every week equal to about 16 for every trade, woman, and stad in
- Since 1980 the number of cigarettes smoked in the world has increased by more than 1,000 billion a year. Six countries account for more than haif of the sotal world market for digarettes, last put at 5,422 billion in
- World-wide, in excess of 14.5 million people depend on the tobacco industry for employment.
- BAT Industries, the UK's largest tobacco company, sold more than 670 billion cigarettes in 1995. The company's tobacco operations has 53,000 employees. About 12.6 million adults in the UK smoke cigarettes -
- 29 per cent of men and 28 per cent of women. Almost a quarter of 15-year-olds in the UK are regular smokers, despite it being illegal to sell digarettes to children aged under 16.
- Around 120,000 smokers in the tilk die every year as a result of their tobacco habit.
- The UK government earned £8.98bn in revenue from: tobacco duty and VAT in 1994/95, but spends only £10m a year on health campaigns against tobacco use.

Sources: BAT industries and ASH

that smoking was not addictive. Acknowledging its involvement in the talks, the White House yesterday put the emphasis on keeping cigarettes from minors. "We are interested in a certain outcome bere, which is to pro-tect children," President Bill Clinton's spokesman, Mike Mc-

the public finances should be in impression of improvement in Paul Gregg at the London

Most economists thought

other figures yesterday coo-

firmed the picture of a boom-

ing economy. The more reliable

quarterly Labour Force Survey

showed a drop of 111,000 in un-

employment to 2,111,000 in

December to February - small-

er than the 181,700 drop in the

claimant count during the same

Employment increased by 135,000 during the latest quar-

ter, and by 351,000 over the past

year. Notifications of new va-

cancies at Jobcentres set a

record, reaching 249,500 in

The tighter conditions were

reflected in an increase in the

underlying growth of average

earnings from 4.75 per cent to

5 per cent in February.

If a pact can be agreed, steering it through Congress would monumentally difficult. Politicians will be wary of granting blanket immunity from

Unemployment hits six-year low

a healthier state, even though the labour market."

pression of letting the industry off the book.

Indeed, the \$300bn figure is not quite as mighty as it at first seems. To pay for it, the US companies would need only to increase the cost of a pack of 20 cigarettes by 50 cents, or about 25 per cent. That would not even be enough to reduce consumption," remarked Graham Kelder of the Tobacco Products Liability Project of the North-

The benefits of a truce to the

the indications are that this is

the kind of labour market boom

we last experienced in the late

Separate figures showed that a combination of tough spend-

ing control and higher tax re-

ceipts than forecast helped the

PSBR beat the Budget target of £26.4bn for 1995/96 by £3.6bn.

Privatisation proceeds con-

Treasury spokesman, said:

Government borrowing is far

stage." City experts said the big

higher than it should be at this

problem for the next govern-

tougher spending plans for the

ment would be meeting even

Employment and the

economy, page 26

Alistair Darling, Labour's

tributed £4.4bn

next three years.

Battle of the sexes

Male and female employees



Smoke gets in their eyes: US tobacco groups, faced with multi-billion world-wide lawsuits are negotiating a damage-limitation exercise Photograph: Tony Buckingham

cost of the settlement would be fervent opponents of the feelvery minimal relative to the discount applied to their stocks." Roy Burry of Oppenheimer Securities said yesterday.

So far little is known on how the talks are progressing. "Ba-sically, what I'm doing is lis-tening." Hubert Humphrey III, Attorney General of Minnesota, said yesterday. "I think the tobacco industry is in big trou-ble and they know it. I think their proposals still fall short of what we'd be interested in."

litigants are to be issued in the ing they most yearn - that pun-ishment has been delivered. next few days as part of the combined action against Imperial Tobacco and Gallabers but the case "It may be that this is an industry that doesn't deserve is not expected to come to court

over the years," Mr Kelder In Britain, lawyers said yesterday a settlement in the US

peace because of all the harm

they have done to the public

would strengthen the hand of the 23 former smokers with lung cancer who are suing the

Leigh Day and Company who is co-ordinating the actions, said: "I am absolutely delighted. The tobacco companies are

being forced into these settlements to survive. They know if they carry on fighting there's a

until the end of next year.

## tobacco companies in a joint very good chance that they will their promotional campaigns. Involved in the talks, which Congress and, under oath, said main companies stood before future litigation or agreeing to market values of the companies A deat, meanwhite, might account the companies of the compan Ecclestone challenged

over Formula One stake

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Moves by Bernie Ecclestone, the guru behind Grand Prix motor racing, to float his Formula One promotional empire on the stock market have become embroilled in further disagreements over the stake in the business be is likely to emerge with.

Top teams involved in the sport are understood to be deeply unhappy that Mr Ecclestone, who manages lucrative global television rights through his Formula One Promotions company, could become a billionaire from the deal. Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, has been appointed to prepare a float this summer which could value the business

at up to \$4bn (£2.5bn). The dispute has arisen despite moves to settle another barrier to the flotation in the shape of an argument over the so-called Concorde Agreement, which divides up revenues from television coverage. Three teams, inciuding the star constructor Williams run by Frank Williams, had refused to comply with the agreement, details of which

have never been made public. The rift over Concorde was reently repaired after weeks of naggling, according to industry sources. "The suggestion is that Bernie put his band in his pocket and offered some more money, without putting the other teams at a disadvantage," a source close to the sport said.



thought to be more serious. Though a formal announcement confirming the plans has been expected, the teams are still concerned at Mr Ecclestone's role and rewards. Constructors are thought to be insisting they should emerge with the bulk of the share after the float.

They are unhappy with the set-up full stop. They just think the balance is all wrong here. No one is disputing Bernie's con-tribution to raising Formula One's public image, but that does not give him the right to to come away with most of the spoils," said one observer.

Inadvertently, the planned flotation has put a spotlight on the vexed issue of precisely who owns Formula One, which could ultimately see Mr Ecclestone's control reduced. During



Felse starts: A dispute may TV revenues between Frank Williams (left) and Bernie Friestone has caused delays

the 1980s his grip tightened on the television rights for the 16 yearly races, each watched by an estimated 400 million people around the world. In 1994 he became Britain's highest paid individual, with a salary of £29.4m, though this fell to £600,000 in the year to March 1995 for reasons which have never been explained.

One advantage of a flotation for the teams was that it would dilute the Ecclestone influence, particularly because Mr Eccle-stone is 65 and has no obvious heirs to his business interests. But some teams are still not thought to be reconciled to a flotation at all. The source explained: "The problem here is that most teams are not run by businessmen. they're run by enthusiasts. The money-making side of the sport has always been secondary."

than 13m after Imro handed down the largest fine ever imposed under the Financial Services Act. A £2m fine fur the mishandling of investors' funds by its former star manager Peter Young was almost three times higher than the previous record. And it was increased by over film to cover the investment management regulator's costs. Imro also indicated it is plan-

ning disciplinary action against individuals who worked at the firm, although it admitted it might take another six to 18 months before it reached its conclusions. Attention has focused on the real of Knich focused on the role of Keith Percy, former chief executive of Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, following Imro's suggestion yesterday that "at least one member of the board of MGAM" knew there were serious problems in its funds five months before Mr Young was suspended last September.

Morgan Grenfell

fined

record

£2m over

Young

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell was yesterday ordered to pay more

Tom Stevenson

City Editor

Six former executives are under investigation by Imro and Mr Young is the subject of a separate inquiry by the Seri-ous Fraud Office.

Phillip Thorpe, Imro chief ex-ecutive, said: "The mismanagement of these funds bas caused unnecessary concurn to an enormous number of in-Martyn Day, the solicitor of vestors. The firm has paid dearly as a consequence of in-adequate management control, This affair plainly illustrates the dangers of ignoring clear

and repeated warnings."

The fine, more than twice analysts' expectations, dwarfed the £750,000 Invesco was forced to pay for pension fund violations concerning the late media tycoon Robert Maxwell. That was the previous record, ahead

of a £700,000 fine imposed on Jardine Fleming last year. It comes eight months after Morgan Grenfell fired Mr Young for breaking regulations by investing too many of three funds` assets in unlisted shares. Five 0ther executives, including Mr Percy, were ousted for failng 10 monitor his dealines.

Mr Young had invested in dozens uf hi-tech companies, breaching the 10 per cent limit in unlisted assets that can be held by unit trusts. He concealed the investments in part through a complicated web of holding companies based in Luxembourg. The three funds affected were MG European Growth Trust, MG Europa Fund and MG European Capital Growth Fund.

Imro said Morgan Grenfell International Fund Management (MGIFM) "did not organise and control its internal affairs to ensure its funds were property managed" and said it "did not act with due skill. care and diligence when it failed to prevent the funds from making inappropriate investments".

Morgan's unit trust arm, Morgan Grenfell Unit Trust Managers, was criticised for issuing material promoting European Growth fund "without properly satisfying itself that it was fair and not misleading". Imro said Mr Young "persis tently acted in a way that abided by the letter rather than the spirit of the unit trust regulations. despite giving undertakings to change his behaviour". An Imro spokesman said the fine had been determined by the nature of the breaches, the number of investors affected and Morgan Grenfell's atti-

tude towards compensation.

# Jobs for the girls reach all-time high

STOCK MARKETS

+3.89 +0.2

6541.80 +89.90 +1.4 17933.59 +241.12 +1.4

12342.02 +46.05 +0.4 3327.68 +47.78 +1.5

FTSE All-Share 2084.16 +14.16 +0.7

Bay's change Change(10) 1996/97 High 1996/97 Law Yield(10)

2163.94

19446.00 17303.65 0.91†

Source: FT Information

the number of women at work reached an alt-time high in the latest quarter, while the number of men with jobs continued to decline, writes Diane Coyle. There are 11.6 million years more women than men women in employment, ac-cording to the latest Labour

tire workforce, and the pro-

One of the most striking of yes-terday's statistics revealed that women who work has been women who work has been climbing, reaching 54.2 per cent, male participation has been on a downward trend, declining to 72.2 per cent in the latest quarter. Within a few are likely to be in jobs.

cording to the latest Labour
Force Survey, 5.2 million of
them part-time. Females now
make np 41 per cent of the enjobs in the UK. More and more portion has been rising steadily. Even more dramatic is the

women are going out to work in all the industrialised economies, according to OECD figures. One

11.50

traditional male-dominated

82 88 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 61 92 93 94 95 96 97

5.63

0.53

Germany 3,22

reason is the increasing depen-dence of these economies on service industries. The share of services, traditional employers of women, is increasing, whereas

manufacturing industries are shrinking relative to the size of the econom

The catch-up also applies to educational qualifications, typical job tenure and pay.

Board Yields \*

INTEREST RATES

6,97 7.63 6.41 0.69

Print (s) Charge (s) Charge N Fails Trick (c) Comp (c) % Charge 428.5 23.5 DFS Furniture Co 503.5

CURRENC!ES

\$ (London) 1.6254 +0.27c 1.5078 \$ (N York) 1.8255 +0.30c 1.5078 DM (London) 2.8183 +2.195 2.2773

DM (London) 1.7339 +1.06pt 1.5104 ¥ (London) 126,335 -Y0.005 168,375 ¥ (London) 205,345 + YD,339 163,403 Similex 106.1 +0.1 96.9 100.1 +0.7 83.6

Testerity Day's the Test has Index Latest Yr Ago Meet Flas Oil Brent \$ 155.0 27 150.9 16 Apr 17.69 -0.34 19.51 109.7+2.6pc 107.0 25 Apr 209.82 -0.55 260.11 Base Rates - 6.00pc 6.75

# **Energy Group seals** £580m Indian deal

US acquisitions, it emerged yeslarge power station in India, writes Chris Godsmark. The agreement is the biggest

since February's demerger and follows a \$120m (£75m) deal last month to buy Citizeos
Lehman Power, a US power about to shift back to the US, trading company.

built in the northern Indian state of Rajasthan alongside a coal

The Energy Group, the coal and Peabody. The Energy Group's power business demerged from US coal division. The mine will Hanson, will soon reveal further start production in 1999 with the power plant, to be designed and terday, as the company signed a £580m deal to help build a tricity division, due to start generation in 2000. The Energy Group will own a 30 per cent stake in the project, with the rest going to the Hindusthan De-

velopment Corporation. ading company.

The power station will be with the prospect of a deal in the next few weeks to buy power generation assets. "The US remains our key area for expanmine to be developed by sion," the spokeswaman said.

عكدًا من الأصل



The size of compensation for tobacco victims is only a part of the wider settlement problem. The headline figure of \$300bn over 25 years is based on the sort of settlement already proposed by Liggett Group, and as such is fairly meaningless'

# Uncertainty will drag on for tobacco industry

L tainty about the giant tobacco settlement now under negotiation in the US is that its outcome is so uncertain and legally complex that it will be many years before we know for sure whether it's a runner or not. Oh, and there is one other thing; the main beneficiaries will, as always, be the lawyers.

That being said, there is no doubt about the industry's urgent need to settle. The cost of litigation in the US is estimated at some \$600m a year at the moment and rising. That, it ought to be understood, is just the cost of success, for the industry thus far has been largely triumphant in seeing off the litigants. Just imagine how the sums will esca-late nuce the industry starts to lose.

The size of compensation for tobacco victims is only a part of the wider settlement problem. The headline figure of \$300bn over 25 years quoted by the Wall Street Journal yesterday is hased on the sort of settlement already proposed by Liggett Group, and as such is fairly meaningless. The Liggett for-mula, of approximately a quarter of revenue, spread across the industry equates to this sort of sum. Gobsmacking though such numbers undoubtedly are, they achieve nothing from a public policy perspective if unaccompanied by a deal that also brings tobacco under much tougher regulatory control.

All that would happen is that the costs of servicing past "victims" would be paid for through higher prices to future addicts. The benefit of settlement would all be one way,

aware of tobacco's dangers, as well as those already unwittingly damaged by the habit.

Again, this is no simple matter. To bring tobacco under the control of the Food and Drug Administration would require root and branch reform. As things stand, all products approved by the FDA are by definition "safe". It is not allowed to licence harmful substances. Furthermore, to make tobacco a prescribed drug would be to destroy the industry and make it incapable of meeting the liability of present compensation claims.

As President Bill Clinton is about to find out, the Middle East peace talks have got nothing on this.

#### Imro shows poor judgement

No-one would disagree that the Peter Young scandal was anything but a gross failure of management on the part of Mor-gan Grenfell's top brass, one which deserves harsh and public punishment. Few, however, could agree that Imro's findings yesterday, and the record fine handed down by the regulator, are a satisfactory outcome to this grubby and unhappy affair.

As to the quantum of the fine, £2m is nei-

ness of its time in the stocks is punishment enough, but a fine of less than I per cent of the black hole left by Mr Young's dealings means the punishment hardly fits the crime.

The real problem with Imro's judgement, however, lies in the questions it leaves unanswered. The fact that the regulator has yet to reach any conclusions about the individuals responsible for the debacle is a telling admission that it is in no position properly to judge the seriousness of the offence. The level of the fine therefore becomes an entirely arbitrary judgement, as does Imro's claim yesterday that the compensation Morgan offered its 90,000 investors last December was fair and equitable.

If Imro hasn't yet reached the conclusion of its deliberations, the question ought to be asked as to why it has chosen the middle of the election campaign to throw its weight around in such a high-profile manner. A cynic would say it must have something to do with the amhitions of Imro's chief executive, Phillip Thorpe, keen to prove himself and oot at all averse to playing public hardball just ahead of the incoming Labour administration's restructuring of the City's various regulatory bodies.

Unfair or not, the point was being widely made in the City yesterday. Imro's posturing aside, one thing is for sure - the future ther here nor there to Deutsche Bank, Mor- does not look bright for Mr Young's supe-

The only thing that can be stated with certainty about the giant tobacco settlement the White House is after is a deal that would be towards the industry. What the White House is after is a deal that would be towards the industry. What the White House is after is a deal that would address the wider problem of present and address the wider problem of present and the impact of the levy, albeit the biggest under the Financial Services Act, believes, knew Morgan was selling dodgy trusts a full five months before the balloon finally went up. They can expect harsh, even brutal treatment, as well.

Again the regulator can hardly be blamed for wanting to make an example of those who perhaps thoroughly deserve their fate. The case could equally well he argued the other way, that far from being too hard Mr Thorpe is being too lenient. He might, for instance, have stripped Morgan Grenfell Asset Management of its licence. The problem with City regulation as it now stands is that the process is too opaque and arbitrary to know.

#### Look at what's under the economic froth

No single indicator can deliver a cast-iron assessment of the state of the economy. Recoveries are always patchy, and different bits of evidence always need to be weighed up against each other. But there could be no clearer sign of economic froth than the breakneck expansion of two particular types of retailer: the luxury coffee bars where a cappuccino will set you hack nearly £2, and the speciality candle shop. Remember the Filofax accessories and Belgian chocolate shopping spree in the late Eighties?

The row about fiddled unemployment figures yesterday was a red herring. It is certainly true that the decline in joblessness has

claimant count figures would suggest. But that does not mean that the labour market has not got tighter. The alternative. and more reliable, Labour Force Survey figures show a drop in unemployment during the past year about three-quarters the size of the decline in the number of claimants. That is still a big, and welcome, fall. The ultimate test of whether the economy is booming, though, is whether the pace of activity is prodding awake the slumbering inflation monster.

Are enough exotic coffees, scented beeswax candles and other goodies being sold in high streets up and down this land. streets up and down the land, or at least the South-east, to over-stimulate consumer spending? Do higher pay and free building society shares make higher borrowing costs a must? The most ominous sign that the answer is

yes lies in the sudden upward scamper in average earnings growth. It has climbed from 4 per cent to 5 per cent since October.

Even those in the economics fraternity who believe everything in the economy is just fine are not, when you really look at their

position, walking their talk; at the same time as talking down the boom, their money is on the emergence of more inflationary pres-sures. Every single one of the 45 economic forecasts listed by the Treasury predicts that base rates will be higher by the end of this year, including all the City forecasters who insist that the recovery is not all that strong. These economists, cappuccino drinkers to a

# Regan debates whether to open hostilities

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

Andrew Regan's Lanica Trust was locked in meetings with its advisers vesterday as it pondered whether to launch a full-scale bid for parts of the Co-operative Wholesale Society or back off completely. A decision could come as early as today.

Following the publication of the CWS results on Monday, Lanica is under pressure to make a decision soon as it would need to open hostilities ahead of the general election.

A Labour government would almost certainly spell the end to Mr Regan's chances as it would take a tough stance on any Coop break up hid. There are 16 Co-op-sponsored Labour MPs and six of them have already laid down an Early Day Motion to oppose Lanica's approach. The motion described him as an asset-stripper backed by littleknown companies in Monte Carlo and was signed by 47

than press ahead if his chances seem futile. His adviser costs have so far been relatively low hut these would rise exponentially if his "hid" went live. One possible avenue of attack

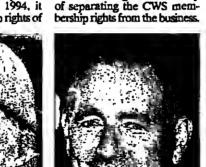
ing if Mr Regan can secure the backing of 10 of the CWS's 300 corporate members. There was speculation yes-

would be to call a special meet-

it already owns part of the Cooperative Wholesale Society following a deal three years ago in which Mr Regan bought the Co-op's food manufacturing



Sources close to Lanica were the CWS. Though Hobson was said to believe that when Mr Re- sold to Hillsdown Holdings in gan's former husiness, Hobson, acquired the Co-op's FE ed that Mr Regan found a way Barber subsidiary in 1994, it came with membership rights of



Part of the family: (from left) Betty Boothroyd: Bill Owen: Peter Bottomley: Sue Pollard: Sean Connery: and Lord Attenborough

late 1995, speculation suggest-

This means that if the CWS

rejected Mr Regan's approach

but later sold parts of its oper-

ations to another hidder, Lan-

ica Trust would benefit from any

However David Lyons, Mr

Regan's right-hand man, who is

a director of Lanica and a for-

mer director of Hobson, yes-

terday denied that Mr Regan



The CWS said yesterday: "It isn't possible to be a corporate Regan had only "bought some member of the CWS without us factories and that doesn't make him a member". knowing about it. You have to Hillsdown Holdings said it be a regional society registered under the Friendly Societies had no knowledge of the Co-op

food manufacturing business ever having CWS membership rights. It said it was not aware of the issue appearing in any nf the Hobson documentation. It is possible that this speculation is part of the mis-information surrounding the Lanica "hid". The whole issue has been conducted in the midst of

what Graham Melmoth, CWS

chief executive, has described as black propaganda". Mr Melmoth has said that even if Lapica receives sufficient backing to call a special meet-

ing it would be outvoted by an overwhelming majority.

The CWS annual meeting takes place in Manchester next month. Lanica will not have a motion supporting its approach on the agenda. However there are thought to be several motions hacking the CWS's stance and the continuation of its co-

Lanica Trust was thought to be waiting for the publication of the CWS results on Monday before finalising its plans. These showed a drop in trading profits from the non-hanking operations. The poorest performer was the food retailing operations where profits were hit by a poor performance in Scotland after Tesco's takeover of William Low increased competition.

MERCURY

HELPS

# 'The first stepping-stone to a professional career'

contest. Michael Palin's big break

came when he won best gentleman's performance in the 1962 Leeds Co-op

Mr Regan is known to he What do Sue Pollard, Lord Atten-Betty Boothroyd, Sean Connery, Alan Bennett, Seamus Heaney, Michael Palin, and, it is rumoured, Maureen Lipman and Alan Rickman bave in common? They could, in a small way, help decide the fate of the Co-op, writes Chris Hughes.

As Co-op members, they and 8 million others elect the CWS board who will have to sit in judgement on Andrew Regan, if he ever gets around to hidding for the business. terday that Lanica Trust believes

everyone was, except the Tories," says Bill Owen, who plays Compo in Last of the Summer Winc. "The Co-op was the first stepping stone to a profes-

Peter Bottomley, the Conservative MP for Eltham, has been a Co-op member for 22 years. Sean Connery was a Co-op milkman and Sue Pollard, star of Hi-de-Hi, was once a check-out girl in the Nottingham Co-op. Lord Attenborough's parents were

co-operative retailers owned directly by

drama festival. Betty Boothroyd recalls her mother using part of the "divi", the members' dividend payment, to pay for her first dancing lessons.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society is not a simple organisation. It is made up of 51 independent Co-operative retailers, or "societies" and a handful of

"My mother was a member of the members in Leicester and he adjudi- the CWS, each of which elects a rep- to elect a representative. It can't be "It's fearsomely complicated. You would never set up an organisation like this today. But we are the victim of our history," said Iain Williamson of the

> It costs £1 to become a Co-op member, which grants them a share of the annual profits and the right to vote each other to their society's board. Martin Henderson, CWS spokesman, said: "It's like the general elec-

tion. A £1 share buys you a voting right

change what's in progress. "An offer of cash to members to de-

mutualise would really only be effective if they were on the board. And it can take up to three years for a member to make their way up to the board," he says.

Mr Regan's proposals would need the approval of 75 per cent of the CWS board's members. They would in turn need the support of 75 per cent of the board of their own society.

# IN BRIEF

#### Industrial output surges in US

Industrial output in the US jumped by 0.9 per cent last month, taking its annual growth to an impressive 5.6 per cent. Capacity usage in industry rose to 84.1 per cent fram 83.6 per cent. The surprise surge was due to a broad-based expansion in manufacturing production, led by computers (output up 2.7 per cent in March), electrical machinery (up 2.0 per cent) and cars (up 1.5 per cent). Manufacturing output as a whole was a whopping 6.7 per cent higher than a year earlier. Analysis said the figures were a clear sign of the economy's strength. Nevertheless, Wall Street appeared calm about the latest evidence of robust growth. The Dow Jones Index was up nearly 20 points at 6,606.82 by midday.

#### BAe shares in orders worth \$1.7bn

British Aerospace celebrated a double bonus yesterday after sharing in aircraft orders worth \$1.7bn. Airbus Industrie, in which BAe has a 20 per cent stake, won orders worth \$1.5hn for A330 jets from Swissair and Sabena of Belgium. Meanwhile At(R), the regional aircraft consortium in which BAe has a one-third stake, secured a \$200m order from the US domestic carrier American Eagle for 12 ATR72 turboprops.

#### Guinness boss gets £100,000 pay rise

Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness, eschewed previous profitrelated bonus payments in favour of a £100,000 salary rise to £700 (00), according to the latest accounts from the brewing and international spirits group. Benefits and other perks took his to-ial salary package to £751,000 tast year, up from £704,000 in 1995. Guinness saw pre-tax profits rise by 11 per cent to £975m in 1996.

### **Eurostar targets business passengers**

Eurostar is launching a first-class service designed to compete head-on with the airlines for husiness passengers. From 28 April it will offer a Premium First service costing £370 return - the same as a full-fare business-class airline ticket. Passengers get free taxis at either end, fast-lane check-in desks and a four-course meal.

### Hepworth sells refractories business

Hepworth, the drainage pipes to boilers group, has sold its refractories operation to Alpine Group of the US for £62.5m. Hepworth Refractories, which makes heat-resistant bricks and other products used in the metal, glass and cement industries, was put up for sale last October.

#### **Cobham reveals European ambitions**

Cobham is looking to play a "pro-active" role in the consolidation of the European defence industry and hopes the proposed sale of the French government's 58 per cent stake in Thomson-CSF will provide spin-off opportunities. Gordon Page, chief executive, said after announcing a surge in the company's annual pre-tax profits from £29.8m to £43.7m: "I wish it was as easy to do husiness in Europe as it is in the US.

# Oftel moves herald mobile shake-out

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Don Cruickshank, the tele-

phones regulator, yesterday moved to relax restrictions on mobile phone operators, heralding a shake-out in the industry which could speed up price reductions for customers. The changes, which apply as soon as possible to the two newest networks. Orange and One2Onc. will give companies more flexibility over how they sell airtime to consumers. Traditionally mobile companies have sold through service providers, husinesses which buy blocks of wholesale airtime and sell it to customers. Vodafone and Celinet were forced to sell through service providers in the mid-Eighties to encourage price competition while the market was controlled by the

The move comes as competiuon between the four mobile

two networks.

networks is stiffening, with re-cent figures showing Orange and One2One have this year heen unexpectedly growing faster than Vodafone or Cellnet. Mr Cruickshank said he

would also free these older networks from restrictions, though he was unlikely to conduct a review until 1998. Vodafone and Cellnet still have the hulk of the UK's 7 million customers. He was still concerned at the high cost of making mobile calls and wanted to see speedier progress towards num-ber portability, where customers could keep their number if they switched networks.

Analysis said the changes confirmed the trend towards the networks huying up service providers, including Vodasone's recent purchase of People's Phone. Jim McCafferty, from stockbrokers Hoare Govett, said: The days of independent service providers appear to be

# JJB gets set to win a younger market

**Nigel Cope** 

JJB Sports is considering opening a nationwide chain of sports shops aimed at two to 10 year olds after a successful trial of two stores in Halifax and Lincoln. The stores are called JJB Fn-

ture Stars and sell hranded sportswear such as Nike sweat shirts and Reebok training shoes aimed at fashion-conscious youngsters and their parents. The stores have opened in the

last few weeks and have been trading strongly. Four more will open in the next month including shops in Bolton and Altrincham. If they mirror the success of the first two stores then JJB will consider converting its smaller stores to the Future Stars format as it concentrates its adult ranges in larger superstores.

JJB's chairman, Dave Whelan, said: "The results so far have been very good. We will wait and see how it goes but if

necessary we will roll the for-mat out." The stores will stock Nike and Reebok training shoes to fit

even a two year old. Prices are high with an Ellesse sweat shirt priced at £17.99. Britain's large sports shops have enjoyed soaring sales on the back of the huge popularity of branded sportswear. This

has come as retailers of tradi-tional childrenswear such as Adams and Mothercare have been experiencing weak sales. Some City analysts expressed concern at JJBs latest move, saying it was a difficult market. But Mr Whelan said it was a low risk strategy as the stores currently trading as Future Stars are former branches of JJB Sports which had been closed but proved difficult to sell. He said the re-fit costs were just £25,000

superstore on London's Oxford Street on 25 April. Investment column, page24

per store. JJB will open its new

# **CUT THE COST OF** CALLING MOBILES.

Mercury SmartCall can save you up to 15% off the cost of calling a mobile, compared to BT's basic rate. To keep in touch and keep your phone bill down, call Mercury.

FreeCall 0500 500 366 quoting ref. RSINDMG

east as at 7 Spoil 1997, company to RT. he is mir for will of 5 minutes, I put to bets worked on and any time at marketed. All calls are suffered to a 1-2 congression design. us. LAT at ITS's Series were a select to an

# Bre-X bosses netted millions on shares in Toronto reveal that between C\$15.45 after a subsequent

Directors of Bre-X Minerals, the troubled Canadian mining firm, made millions of dollars from share-dealings last year when the stock price was riding high, it emerged yesterday.

While the top directors at Bre-X Minerals lost a fortune on paper when the share price crashed last month, official records show that they did cash in on the strength of what now appear to be outrageous estimates of the size of gold re-serves on its Indonesian exploration drilling.

April and September last year, the company's founder andpresident, David Walsh, sold 300,000 shares at an average about C\$7.5m (£3.3m).

Share-trading activity by John Felderho, his Dutch geologist partner and vice-chairman who in 1993 first persuaded him to buy into the now notorious Busang concession, was on an even more aggressive scale. In one day alone - on 19 April 1996 - Mr Felderhof sold

share split). Last night the shares were selling at C\$2.17. In all Mr Walsh, his wife Jeannette, Mr Felderhof, his price of around C\$25 netting wife Ingrid, John Thorpe the company's treasurer, vice-president Steve McNulty and his wife Nancy and another-vice

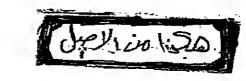
president, Rolaodo Francisco,

cashed in over C\$100m worth

of shares from April to September last year. This was at the time the company claimed that Busing might be the biggest gold mine in the world-up to 200 million C\$5.5m worth of shares in separate lots of about 2,000 shares ounces worth £30bn - were Transactions recorded by the Ontario Securities Commission when the price was trading at doing the rounds of world stock around C\$170 (equivalent to markets.

According to reports in the Northern Miner, the North American mining newspaper, Michael de Guzman, Bre-X chief geologist, who reportedly jumped to his death from a helicopter near the Busang prospect, could have "netted himself several million dollars" had he cashed in his share options when the price was at its

The Ontario Securities Commission, Toronto Stock Exchange and Alberta Securities Commission began its investigation into Bre-X to gather information to enable staff to assess whether there is evidence for formal proceedings



# Bodycote acquisitions turn up heat

Bodycote International and its chairman, Joe Dwek, are two of the more successful remnants of the ill-fated Slater Walker empire of the 1970s. They owe much of their good fortune to a management team led by chief executive John Chesworth, who has successfully re-engioeered the group over the last 18 years or so. The last of the original textile interests - a bullet-proof vest manufacturer - was dumped earlier this month and through a series of acquisitions Mr Chesworth has created one of the biggest independent metal heat treatment groups

That helped it yesterday to reveal a 46 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £27.6m for 1996. If analysts' forecasts of £46m for the current year are right, the figure will have multiplied by over 10 times in 11 years. The market has taken time to recognise these achievements, hut, after a 32.5p rise to 770p vesterday, the shares are oearly double their price 18 months ago, putting them on a forward multiple of 19.

This sort of heady rating is normally accorded companies at the leading edge of technology, yet Mr Chesworth is the first to acknowledge that his is oeither a hi-tech or highly priced line of work, describing Bodycote as a plant hire business that sells time on its furnaces. But its equipment has proved itself for-like sales figures, which grew by an more efficient and more reliable than

Heavy capital investment, set to almost double to £37.6m this year, has belped Bodycote grab a significant share of the market for heat treating other manufacturers' components in every industry from aerospace to electric band tools, giving them hardness and durability. There is still plenty more to go for. Bodycote reckons it bas less than a fifth of an outsourced UK mar-ket put at £100m, while three-quarters of heat treatment work is still carried out in-bouse

Despite the modesty of Mr Chesworth's description, Bodycote has some fairly whizzy businesses. Its commanding positioo in hot isostatic processing takes it into high-integrity applications like aero-eogine blades.

The outlook for the 18 per cent of the group's sales into the currently booming aerospace industry is set fair, while automotive, a further 22 per cent of the business, is looking reasonable, at least in the Anglo-Saxon countries. But the main short-term excitement at Bodycote remains acquisition-led.

Last year it spent £112m, including deht, on 10 purchases, culminating in Brukens of Sweden, making it one of Europe's biggest heat treatment groups. Around three-quarters of last year's profits growth came from ac-quisitions and analysts expect Brukens to chip in over £10m to this year's figures. It is targeting heat treatment and laboratory testing companies in the US and talking to some, backed by £20m

# THE INVESTMENT COLUMN than its rivals JD Sports and substantially more than Blacks Leisure, which

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

£80m in firepower Well clear of last November's rights issue at 600p, the shares are a firm hold as one of the select band of high-growth

#### JJB figures set more records

engineering companies.

The quoted sports retailers have been having a high old time of it recently. Buoyed by the increasing popularity of branded sportswear and helped by the fragmented ownership of sports shops, the likes of JJB Sports, JD Sports and Blacks Leisure have been enjoying huge profits growth and soaring share prices.

JJB Sports, the chain founded by former footballer Dave Whelan in at £20.3m for the year to 31 January. Even more impressive were the likeastonishing 38 per ceot over the year

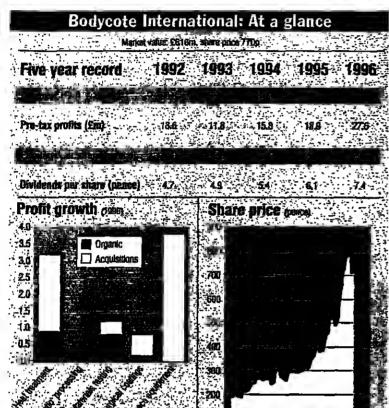
of oet cash which could give it up to ing. However, the latest 11 weeks are being set against a weak comparable period for last year when bad weather affected sales

JJB is certainly an impressive story and the shares have now risen more than sixfold since the flotation in late 1994. They jumped another 5p yesterday to close at a record high of 429p. It now has 167 stores and opened 25 new superstores over the year and a further eight since the year-end. Next year it will open 39 more outlets.

The company has abandoned its experiment in Spain and is closing its three stores at a cost of £387,000. More ambitious, however, is the plan to convert some of the smaller stores to a oew format simed at children aged two to 10. Called Future Stars, the plan is to

capitalise on the market for junior repli-ca kits and tiny training shoes. This has raised some eyebrows in the City as this is seeo as a risky market.
While the JJB tale is obviously an impressive story, the problem for poteotial investors is its rather fright-

ening rating. On forecast profits of £27m, the astonishing 38 per ceot over the year shares trade oo a prospective price-and are also up strongly in current trad-



is on a rating of 16. JJB is clearly a quality company but there may be better value elsewhere.

#### Cobham steps on road to recovery

obham is a good case study in the pames can ride if they disappoint a market that has fallen in love with their strategy. Eighteen months ago the market's perception of the aerospace and precisioo engineering group was transformed by its £75m acquisition of Westwind, which took it into the semiconductor market for the first time. Its shares almost doubled in a year.

jumping to a sizeable premium to the market, but disappointment at the new acquisition's progress has left the shares in limbo since.

Yesterday the company set out on the road to recovery with a 47 per cent increase in profits before tax to £43.7m and 24 per cent rise in earnings per share coming in bang in line with analysis' expectations. More impor-tantly, Cobbam had an impressive order book to show the City and good oews to tell on Westwind's progress, which sent the shares 35p higher to 6525p, close to the 669.5p high reached at the end of last year.

Although sales of its air bearing spindles, used to cootrol the manufacture of printed circuit boards, have been slower to materialise than brokers boped it oow looks as if ooce they get going volumes will be much higher than previously thought. New applications for the technology, such as the manufacture of scanning devices, look to have good potential as well and initial expectations that Westwind could grow profits at 20 per cent a year have been esurrected.

Westwind is only a small part of the group as a whole, so more important in anything other than sentiment terms was the slew of new orders last year such as contract awards for the British Aerospace Nimrod 2000 maritime patrol aircraft and the GEC Phoenix battlefield surveillance system. Initial deliveries were also made for a tanker conversion programme for Boeing.

With the core defence business arguably in much better shape than a year ago, it would not be unreasonable for Cobham's shares to recover the premium rating they lost last summer. On the basis of forecast profits before tax of £49m this year and £55.5m next time the shares trade on a price/earnings ratio of 18, falling to 16. That accounts for most of the good news, but analysts believe the recovery could continue to as much as 700p in the medium term.

# Strong sterling alarms Reed and Reuters

**Magnus Grimond** 

Further concerns over the strength of sterling were voiced by two of Britain's biggest companies yesterday when Renters and Reed Elsevier warned that the currency could have a significant impact on profits this

Peter Job, Reuters' chief executive, told shareholders. attending the electronic information group's annual meeting that both profits and earnings would be virtually static in the first half of 1997 if the pound continued at current levels. The news pushed the shares down 8p at one stage, before recovering to end the day 3p lower at 589p.

First-quarter revenues have been cut by 2 per cent to £699m by currency factors, but underlying sales growth in the first

Reuters said there had been no impact on the fundamental

Sterling's strength continues to have a negative impact on our reported figures", Mr Job said. "Meantime, the business is performing much as we ex-pected. We mainly invoice in ocal currency all over the world so sterling exchange rate move-ments are not having any impact

on unit sales." Fears over the impact of translating overseas profits into a higher sterling were echoed at Reed's annual meeting yesterday, lan Irvine, chairman of Reed International, the Britishquoted end of the business, told shareholders that if sterling maintained its current strength against most other currencies it would have a "marked effect on the reported results, particularly in the first six months to June

But, like Reuters, he tem-pered his remarks by adding that the negative effect of currency translation did not affect the underlying operating per-formance of the group, "Overall, the businesses continued to perform well," he said.

Reuters also warned yesturday that computer problems related to the switch to the year 2000 was hampering its efforts to develop new products. Mr Job said this effect of the change of date on existing suftware was a serious issue with wide ramifications. "There is a lot of work to be done and we will eat up some effort that would usually go in to new product development."

Reuters was unable to report any progress oo plans to reinstate last year's share buy-back, which was derailed by a lastminute tax change from the Chancellor Kenneth Clarke.

# Scramble expected for shares in Aston Villa

Jim Levi

A france goalmouth scramble for shares in Astoo Villa looks in prospect despite the end-ofseason blues afflicting the shares of most quoted soccer

Villa, fourth in the Premier League, is the latest to join the City's growing list of stock market entrants and today's prospectus will detail plans to raise between £15m and £20m with the placing of new shares.

The listing is expected to value the company at up to £140m. Financial institutions have promised to put up the bulk of the new money. But Villa fans, who include 20,000 season ticket holders, have been carmarked about 25 per cent of. the new equity on offer. Among

those seasoo ricket bolders are Tony Hales, chief executive of drinks giant Allied Domeco. and Mervyn King, economics director of the Bank of England. Mr Hales is joining the Villa board as a non-executive.

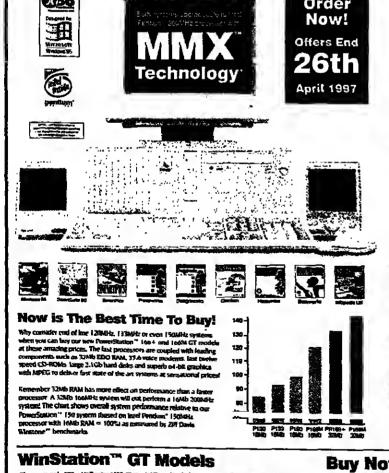
The higgest club in Birmingham, Villa has been a consistent performer at the top of English soccer, winning the Coca-Cola Cup twice in the past five years and playing in European competition in three out of the past four seasons.

That consistency is reflected in the financial results. The club has made profits in all but one of the past 10 years. Thanks to healthy gate receipts and television deals, operating profits last year, before net spending on new players, reached £6.1m on turnover of £18.8m.

Separately, the rival West Bromwich Albion cluh in the West Midlands, quoted on AIM, yesterday announced a sharp upturn in half-year profits from £129,000 to £301,000. The shares, however, at £200 each are well down from their recent peak of £280.

Interim results were also released by Caspian Group, owner of Leeds United, that reflected the impact of net spending of £7.9m oo transfer fees. Despite raising £5.3m from the sale of children's TV rights in Paddington Bear, Juniper Jungle and the Shoe People, the group made an after-tax loss of £2.63m. Attendances seem to be holding up well and television revenues showed a marked increase following a better deal between the League and BSkvB.

# **Our Best Offers Yet!**



166+ Order

 PR166+ process
unrefactured by ISM
 32360 EXX RAM 2.1Gb EDE Hard De a 33.6 Votos Modern 14" SVGANI Scree 12 Speed CD-ROM

16-bit Seres Sound on

Speciets

256K Photos Burd Costs

64-25K Contribut Lines 245
System RAM

NESSTY Solvens Burde

£899,vat

PowerStation" GT 4 165M with 17" N. streen Product Code: 001-00-690 1491°° 1269

166M

166MHz tou Perker prosper with MACT sch

. 32Mb eoo mui

a 33.6 Vaca Marina

15" 970A N Some 12 Speed CO-ROW

2.160 EXENED DA

16-bit Sees Sound and

**Buy Now...Pay October** 



## IN BRIEF

#### Losses at Blockeys worsen to £2.7m

Blockeys, the building materials group, reported a deepening of pre-tax losses from £581,000 to £2.71m for 1996, and warned it was being affected by a continuing decline in construction activity, coupled with falling selling prices. "Industry stocks remain at over £1.1bu, representing over 20 weeks' supply at current demand levels, which will add further pressure on the pricing policy in the industry," a company spokesman said.

#### J&J to offload Biocompatibles shares

Johnson & Johnson wants to sell 1 million shares in Biocompatibles International, which will reduce its stake from 6.4 to 4.3 per cent. J&I's planned disposal follows the release last month of the lock-up provisions entered into by the main shareholders at the time of Biocompatibles' flotation a year ago.

#### Capital Radio sells television studio

Capital Radio has agreed to sell its television studio, Capital Studios, to Prospect Media Group for £2.5m cash. In addition, Capital Studios has paid a pre-completion dividend to Capital Radio of £1.35m. Capital Radio will invest £1m in Prospect in return for a 20 per cent sharebolding in the enlarged Prospect group. For the year ended 30 September, Capital Studios generated a profit before tax of £60,000 on turnover of £2.6m.

#### Ceramic supplier's shares Flare

Shares in Flare Group jumped by 11p to 140.5p after the indus trial ceramics supplier released better-than expected full-year fig-ures. Pre-tax profits leapt from £800,000 to £3.3m. The company said it hoped to expand further this year.

### Stagecoach to sell Swebus Norge

Stagecoach Holdings announced the sale of Swebus Norge to Norgebuss Invest for £7.9m. Swebus Norge is the holding company of the group's Norwegian operations and operates 250 bus-

### BICC signs cable venture in Thalland

BICC has signed a joint venture with Thailand's United Communications Group to make and market optical fibre communication cables in Thailand. BICC said it planned to build a £12m

#### cable manufacturing facility in Thailand. Pemberstone makes new offers

Pemberstone made new recommended offers worth £14.57m for First Predator Plus, Predator Three and Tamworth Assets. Agree ment has also been reached for Pemberstone to make a recom mended offer next month for Predator, and a separate £4.83m takeover bid for South Eastern Recovery Assured Homes.

Company Resurts					
	2 revound	Pre-tax E	EPS	Dividend	
AG Holdings (1)	15.6m (14.8m)	1.44m (1.57m)	5.1p (5.2p)	2.25p (2.25p)	
Blockleys (F)	8.34rs (9.73rs)	-271m (-0.58m)	-7.41p (-1.74p)	-(-)	
Sodycete (ell (F)	120.1m (80.4m)	. 27.8m (18.9m)	30,2p (19.7p)	7.4p (6.1p)	
Bridgand Group (F)	14.1m (15.6m) .	0.15m (-12.3p)	0.5p (-12.3p)	0.20 (0.20)	
Cospies Group (F)	12.9m (1.88m)	0.71m (-1.121m)	0.3 tp (1.09p)	- (-)	
Colchem (F)	297m (228m)	43.7m (29.8m)	32.5p (25.2p)	11.3p (12.05)	
Deneura (P)	-(-)	3.61m (3.11m)	11.5p (2.6p)	4.50 (4.10)	
Flare Broop (F)	37.1m (11.6m)	3.30m (1.30m)	t 1.5p (12.5p)	1p (ml)	
intelligent Sav (F)	3.47m (4.05m)	-1.37tm (0.20m)	-7.1p (1.1p)	- (-)	
JJB Sports (P)	1\$1m (89.5m)	20.3m (13.0m)	14.450 (9.250)	4.5p (2.92p)	
Turnpyto Stoup (F)	5.44m (3.70m)	0.24m (0.14m)	1.01p (0.81p)	0.5125p (0.4p	
West Brownich Albian (I)	3.40m (2.84m)	0.30m (0.13m)	4.53p (3.63p)	-{-}	
(R-Final (I)-Intering					

# Mowlem float plan to value SGB at £100m

City Editor

John Mowlem is to float off SGB, its scaffolding subsidiary, in a share placing that will value the company at about £100m this summer. The return of SGB to the stock market comes 11 years after Mowlem bought the husiness for £160m. although the company said disposals since meant the two figures were not comparable.

Bob Stokell, chief executive, said: "SGB is recognised as a leader in access products, and serves a world-wide market. It has an ability to provide innovative solutions to the most complex of client demands. As an independent company, SGB will be able to develop further an already strong brand name."

SGB, founded in 1903 and floated on the stock market in 1922, is one of the world's largest companies involved in the manufacture, sale and hire of access equipment for the construction industry. As well as access products for the oew build construction market, it pro-vides scaffolding equipment for

buildings and pipeline structures in the oil, chemical and steel industries.

Mowlem will keep 51 per cent of SGB's shares after the flotation and directors will be given so far unspecified stakes in the business, which currently employs around 4,000 in 125 locations in 20 countries. For the financial year to Dc-

cember, SGB recorded pre-tax profits of £16m (£11.7m) on turnover of £263.2m. Mr Stokell, who joined last year when Mowlem's chairman, ken Minton, poached bim from his own former company, Laporte. said he had targeted an increase in SGB's return on sales from about 6 to 10 per cent and a rise in return on assets from 10 to 18 per cent. Brokers have forecast operating profits of £18m

for SGB this year. As well as Mr Stokell, Mowlem has also appointed Stephen Yapp, former finance director of Hadleigh, the storage tank company.

The two plan further ratiooalisation of SGB's UK business, reducing its manufacturing outlets from seven to two.

# CINven set to seal £1bn heathcare deal

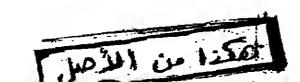
CINven, the venture capital group hived off from British Coal, is holding exclusive talks with the French industrial congiomerate, Compagnie Gen-erale des Eaux (CGE), which could result in a £1bn management buyout of its healthcare divisions in the UK and France. writes Chris Godsmark

The deal, financed with a mixthre of debt and equity, is easily the largest since CINven was year after the state sell-off.

CGE has already stated it of the state sell-off. separated from British Coal 18 months ago. It follows its financing of the management buyout of the Compass catering group's healthcare arm for £180m in 1995. CINven is though to have beat off stiff competition for the bid, which could be sealed by the summer.

The announcement is another significant boost for the venture capital industry, which has come under the spotlight following deals to sell two privatised railway rolling stock leasing companies over the past year. Maoagers and venture capital backers emerged with hundreds of millions of pounds in windfall profits less than a

CGE has already stated it expects to receive around Fr8.5ba (£900m) from the sale, which includes private hospitals in the UK through its General Healthcare company and its French opcration, Geoerale de Sante. The sale will raise speculation that the husinesses will be floated on the stock market.



Data Bank

FTSE 100 4294.6 + 7.8

4524.6 + 2.9

SEAQ YOLUME

672.5m shares,

Gifts Index

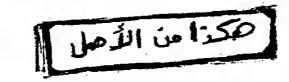
94.03 + 0.12

42,566 bargains

Share spotlight

FISE 250

FTSE 350 2116.0 + 3.4



# market report/shares

# Health shares provide a tonic for election lethargy

The stock market was hooked on drugs with some of the second-line health shares attracting at the group's osteoporosis treatment. Others higher included

It was, however, a day when election lethargy took hold. Trading was subdued with the political war-of-words dulling the enthusiasm of many investors, keeping them on the

Even New York could not offer another pick-me-up. With Wall Street showing signs of hesitancy the market for a time drifted into negative territory only to stage a modest late rally when the Dow Jones Average added a few points; Footsie closed 7.8 points higher at 4,294.6.

Health shares struggled

Health shares struggled against the tide of indifference. Celltech jumped 34p to 591.5p following whispers of interesting developments and Cortecs International put on 43p to 280p on stories NomuScotia, still struggling to re-claim earlier ground, and ML Laboratories, which seems to have come out of a long, uncomfortable dive. Chiroscience firmed 3.5p to 384p with

Lehman Brothers suggesting a 500p target.

But Shield Diagnostic remained under the weather, off 17-5p to 602-5p, despite a UBS presentation, and recent high flyers Drew Scientific, down 5p to 140p, and Tepnel Life, off 7p at 105-5p, continued to sink nearer earth.

The Glazo Wellcome giant Lehman Brothers suggesting a

The Glaxo Wellcome giant endured a two-way pull, ending 5p higher at 1,121.5p. In early trading the shares were York casting new doubt on its Lamivudine hepatitis B drug. Shares of Biochem Pharma, 43p to 280p on stories Nomura had put out a buy signal which discovered the treatment, were hit on Nasdaq on



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

independent regional distrib-

utor, was given a further charge by takeover speculation.

The shares, in brisk trading, gained another 9p to 444.5p, only 9p below their peak. The

bid numour was vague, sug-

gesting a US group may un-settle the election campaign

tlement in the US tobacco lit-

igation saga and Tate & Lyle

with a strike for control.

suggestions that two investment houses were making cau-tious noises about the treatment, trailed at a conference last week.

The shares, however, were later lifted by details of a new migraine drug to be marketed in Europe. The treatment, Naramig, has been approved for use in Sweden and is being studied by various regulatory authorities.

Elsewhere utilities, after their storming performance, ran into profit taking. National Power was clipped 10.5p to 530p and Bailtrack 5p to 452p. It was not all one-way traffic. PowerGen firmed to 642p and Southern Electric, the last

was again sweetened by mut-ed takeover gossip, up 6.5p to Banker HSBC outper-

formed its sector with a 23.5p gain to 1,542.5p. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson prompted the gain by putting a 1,900p tar-get on the shares.

The two quoted cider makers were active. It seems HSBC James Capel caused the fer-ment by lowering its cider es-

HP Bulmer responded by saying its volume was up 4 per cent last year and it was thinking about increasing its £29m marketing spend. Its shares ended unchanged at 569p while struggling rival Matthew Clark lost 11.5p to 310.5p. Lacas Varity gave up 1.5p to 196.5p with BZW saying sell and Salomon Brothers sug-

with a strike for control.
Other privatised shares did
well. BAA, the airports group,
continued to bask in SBC Warbing approval, climbing 12p to
528-5p. British Airways was another flying high on the back
of Warbing, up 15.5p to 680.5p.
BAT Industries was puffed
up 28p to 541p on talk of a settlement in the US tobacco litgesting buy.

Optometries, the optical equipment company, added another 4p to 26.5p on the ar-

rival of a consortium and Freeport Leisure, running out-

of-town factory outlets, rose
22p to 158.5p, reflecting the
Ce.J Clark deal with MEPC.
Middlesex Holdings, with
financial and steel interests in the former Soviet Union, gained 0.5p to 8.25p, just begamed 0.5p to 8.25p, just below its 12-month high. Year's
results are due next month with
some looking for profits to top
£10m against £5.2m last time.
Diron Motors revved up
23p to 316.5p after chairman
Donald Driver said trading
this year was "considerably
sheed of bet year and well

ahead of last year and well ahead of budget". His com-ments prompted ABN Amro Hoare Govett to lift his year's estimate from £7.5m to £7.8m.

Pittencrieff Resources, the oil group, held at 42.5p. After the market closed it disclosed a 60p-a-share US offer could be on its way. Gothic Energy, quoted on Nasdaq, is the

☐ Bula Resources, the oil tiddler with 1.6 billion shares

Taking Stock

the former Soviet Union. Its hopes to have more production flowing soon at its Salymskoye oilfield have been dashed by an early spring. It is undertaking a review of its of chairman Jim Stanley who resigned this week to "pursue his other mining interests". There have, however, been rumblings of discontent

claims 15 per cent of the capital backed a Stanley-must-go campaign. The shares fell 0.5p to 1.5p.

shares of healthcare group Biocompatibles Internat were placed at 1,335p. Some came from US giant Johnson shaded 5p to 1,360p.

Market leaders: Top 20 volumes | Pyl Bit Scolland | 600000 | Ladbooke | 500000 | Cadoury Schwps 490000 | BP | 570000 | Legal & General | 470000 | Lucaskinty | 570000 | Lucaskinty | 570000 | Burlon | 440000 | 440000 The state of the s FTSE 100 Index hour by hour Open 43018 up 150 89,00 43060 up 132 16,00 43069 up 201 11.00 42942 up 74

# How employment can boom without busting the economy

There has been more good news on the unemployment front this week - there is less of it than there was. No matter how fiendishly the Government has fiddled the headline figures, all measures of joblessness show that the economy is growing fast enough to reduce the total.

While this news is genuinely welcome, it raises two questions. First, do further reductions in unemployment depend simply on faster growth and if so how far can this go before the next government has to put the brakes on the economy in prevent inflating rising? Second, who is getting the new

inbs? How the new jobs are shared around is as important for social reasons as how many there are.

The latest two months' worth nf official statistics have set the inflation alarms ringing because they sug-gest that the jobless count has fallen rapidly enough to send wage infla-tion higher. Underlying growth in average earnings has risen to 5 per cent, which is about the highest consistent with the 2.5 per cent inflatinn target if the economy's long-term potential growth is about 2.5 per cent. Business surveys suggest that skill shnrtages have become widespread and, in the service industries in particular, employers are worried

The conventinnal wisdom is therefore that the booming economy can and will take unemployment lower but it is happening alarmingly fast and stoking the inflationary fires. The economy is breaking the "speed limit" on the rate at which unemployment can safely ioll.

Économists and politicians alike stress the need to reduce inhlessness - especially among the young and the long-term unemployed - by "supply side" measures such as training, jnh search support and even the withdrawal of benefits. Few will say instead that they think there is a need to boost demand in the economy even further.

But could this conventional wisdom be wrong? A book of essays published today\* challenges it from a variety of left-wing perspectives,



DianeCoyle

An accountant who sells burgers is really unemployed, argues Lord Eatwell'

converts. One of the least likely to sway the orthodoxy comes from Labour peer John Eatwell. who stretches the definition of unemployment in argue that there is plenty of scope for extra demand to reduce it. Following the works nf eminent Cambridge econnmist Joan Rohinson in the 1930s, Lord Eatwell argues that there is a great

deal nf disguised unemployment. He defines this as all the people doing a job where their productivity is helow their potential. If you are a qualified accountant but can nuly find work selling hamburgers

his view. His estimates make the "real" unemployment rate about 12 rather than 6 per cent.

If you accept this case, there is no inflationary danger in boosting demand in the economy. There are people productive, skilled and efficient enough to meet all the extra demand. They can move out of the less skilled into the more skilled jobs, and their place can be taken by the rest of the unemployed. This argument has something going for it at the depths of a recession but the essay does not address how much disguised unemployment changes over the cycle nor how low it might be now. After five years of economic recovery, it must be far lower.

A more convincing case is made in a separate essay by Peter Robin-son from the LSE's Centre for Economic Performance. He points out that the reason everybody thinks falling unemployment will trigger higher pay inflation is that rising un-employment has been accompanied by sharp falls in earnings growth during the two most recent recessions. But the evidence so far is that there is an asymmetry. As the chart shows, moves in the opposite direction have not, during the past two cycles, had as hig a pay response. "The fall in unemployment required to produce a given increase in wage inflation was significantly greater than the rise in

unemployment required to produce a given reduction in wage inflation." This is cheering stuff for anybody who thinks it worth boosting the

economy by as much as it takes to

then you are really unemployed, in reduce joblessness even further. But Mr Robinson himself argues in favour of a slow move simply because we cannot be sure how much further it is possible to go without paying the inflationary price. We have already had a long expansion nf the economy, and there have been nn adverse shocks such as the oil price jumps of the 1970s for nearly two decades. "The new labour market regime in the UK has yet to be really tested," he writes.

So the conventional wisdom comes out on top. Perhaps a more useful thing to focus on, rather than the unemployment total, is the question of how work is shared out.

A report this week from the Employment Policy Institute also con-ciuded that falling unemployment was about to crash into the inflation barrier. But even if it were nnt. there is a large core of "structural" unemployment that is simply not amenable to higher demand. There is nobody in work in about nne in five households in Britain. Nearly two-fifths of job seekers have been out of work for more than a year - twice the size of the lnng-term unemployment component two decades ago. Middle-aged men's participation rate has fallen sharply since the late 1970s. And there is a lot of evidence that education and training are not fitting many young people for jobs.

The EPI reaches the conclusion that "supply side" policies are exactly what is needed to tackle these unfairnesses which, if allowed to persist, will tend to boost poverty, homelessness and crime. It favours the "welfare to work" philosophy of New Labour and the Liberal De-mocrats. The catch is that this probably won't work if it is done on the cheap. Director John Philpott charges all the parties with wishful thinking at best, sheer hype at worst. But at least they deserve the credit for going beyond the wish-ful thrught that a hit of a boost for the economy will solve the problem.

\*Employment and Economic Performance, ed. Jonathan Michie and John Grieve Smith, Oxford University Press, £15.99 paperback.

# Two American bakers who have gone quite barking... given Fine for pets, now standby to give persons to give pe

We've had superstores for pets, insurance for pets, now standby for Europe's first dog bakery.

Beagle Bagels, Hound Dog Hearts, Pup Tarts and Big Scary Kitties are just a few of the gourmet dog foods available in a range of stores being opened in Loudon this Friday

The PEISMART superstore chain is, of course, the brainchild of two Americans, Dan Dye and Mark Beckloff of Kansas City, who aim to have 25 stores open world-wide by the end of the year.

Dan and Mark outline their

philosophy in a book of canine recipes titled Short Tails and Treats from Three Dog Bakery. A flavour of the book can be gained from the introduction: "This is nur own wags-to-riches story of how we came to start the world's five-paw bakery – for dogs. Ours is a Canine Confectionery, a Pooch Patisserie, a Mecca For Mutts where dogs go to see and be seen, nibble and be mbbled, sniff and be sniffed."

It's obvious that if puns were pounds, Dan'n'Mark would already be as rich as Warren Buffett. If you don't fancy the book, they can also be contacted via their website: http://www.threedog.com.

How very odd. I thought we in Britain were supposed to be living in a "post-industrial society", with all the economic expansion coming from services. Not so, according to the latest Wealth Register written by Dr Philip Beresford, which reveals details of over 5,500 millionaires in the UK.

Dr Beresford writes: "The largest grouping of British millionaires (14.3 per cent of the total worth £17bn of wealth) is to be found in industry, followed by property (12.2 per cent with £14.495bn of assets) and the City (10.5 per cent with £12.44bn of wealth)."

So all those metal bashers from "oop North" are in fact far better off than the stripy shirts in the Square Mile. The message for amhitious Orbridge graduates is clear: Head for Birmingham. And if you're pondering



Taking the dog biscuit: Pooches can now enjoy bagels and tarts

point of a 1980s-style market bubble. Dr Beresford adds a worrying parallel with that dizzy decade; attitudes to wealth are returning to the "if you've got it,

flaunt it" variety.
For instance, Tiny Rowland (formerly of Lonrhn) phoned Dr Beresford no less than seven times to ask where he was in the

rankings of the rich.

And another rich person sent Dr Beresford a photo-copy of his Nationwide pass book just in prove that he really was worth a million quid. Pass the Bolly!

Congratulations to Nigel Whittaker, once one of the City's highest paid pr men while at Kingfisher, who has popped up as UK Chairman of Burson-Marsteller, the ginhal group of

spin doctors.

Mr Whittaker trousered a hefty pay-off when he left Kingfisher in a board room reshuffle two years ago, which was prompted by a profits warning. Trained as a lawyer, he began a 13-year stint with Kingsfisher in 1983 at the age of 34 as executive director responsible for corporate affairs.

During that time Mr Whittaker helped fight nff Dixon's hostile bid in 1986, spent four years as

Woolworths and three years as chairman of B&Q. A keen marathon runner. Mr Whittaker founded his own pr

consultancy after leaving Kingfisher, and will continue his independent consulting activities while at Burson-Marsteller.

One of my colleagues Jim Levi has just suggested a possible solu-tion to the Millennium Time-bomb, which is forecast to cost world business \$600bn putting their computer systems right.

The problem is that computers will be unable to distinguish between the year 2000 and the year 1900 because they have traditionally only operated using the last two digits. Thus the millennium heralds the spectre of global conputer meltdown.

Jim proposes that all computers should be left to pre-tend that the year 2000 is really 1900, leaving us a century to sort

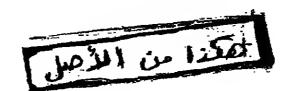
things out.
Obviously this wouldn't work with computers halding records that actually go back to the year 1900. But there can't be too many of those, surely. Mr Levi awaits his Nobel Prize

for World Peace.

#### some more likely than nthers to win John Willcock human resources director for Industrial Metals Foreign Exchange Rates Interest Rates Lifte Financial Futures **Bond Yields Precious Metals** 7.55 6.92 2.31 7.82 5.75% 7.35% 6.76% 640-530 271-260 14-4 184-128 0-0 2 74-86 14 0-0 37 0-0 144 116 Sovis 80.89 49:55 56 Nobles 365:381 2/5 235 25 Maple Leaf 347/363 214 204 23844 21041 12571 40715 \* 23624 60836 23373 23-84 93-84 67-86 67-86 85-33 85-33 85-33 0.8504 0.7504 4.4831 1.4520 0.8425 2.1697 0.8336 91 Agricultural Money Market Rates 41A GM:1773-1 Other Spot Rates Energy Breat Crude IPE 520pm Dollar **Tourist Rates Commodity Indices** Green(Drechm Hong Kong(Do Ireland(Punts) | Italy(Line) | Japon(Yen) | Malta(Lin) Other Softs -0.49 -0.97 -0.56 +0.77 +0.32 -1.24 190.85 261.46 65.86 178.69 195.38 435.86 208.55 301.48 72.47 186.47 184.87 496.87 subtract from spot rate 12.2200 Dollar rates quoted as record Trust Prices 341 27 270 "Information professionals rank Financial Times Information as the most mportant UK business information provider Financial Times Information provides online information from over 5,000 business sources comprising 43 million. documents, as well as a database of 3.5 million securities and fundamental data on quoted companies. For more information contact Andrew Hunt on +44 171 825 8420, 175.8 317.8 317.8 317.8 214.2 115.8 114.2 610.8 011 011 00 90 FINANCIAL TIMES Virgin Direct Directory House, W Tel: 3048 lis as 95 Ertek meli-jvirging Un ingo Tracking 244,60 73,32 37 17 199,20 340,10 174,60 out charge when units sold formerly 'other formerly 'bid' Non SiB meagnised funds

FINSTAT - instant PC access to Financial Times Statistical data. For further information, call Lecanne Gilliar at FT Information

on +44 171-825-8430 or email: leeanne.gilliar@ft.com



sport

# Balding's Hidden talent given Free expression

**GREG WOOD** reports from Newmarket

The Free Handicap is supposed to be the irritating little brother of the major Classic trials at the Craven meeting, yet in re-ment years, all but unnoticed, it las started to grow up. Since 1991, two Guineas winners, Mystikn and Harayir, have started their season in this strange little event which sits midway between the Pattern and the great mass of handicaps below (the Craven Stakes itself, by contrast, cannot offer a single Classic winner in the same period). Plenty of the spectators bere vesterday believe that its record may improve still further on 2,000 Guineas day.

Most significantly, they in-cluded both Ian Balding, whn

A Pr	Newma	rket - 2.00	
1000	Home	C M L T	į
-	Generous CER	64 84 74 84	1
	hone	81 81 81 81	
	Sir Taibut	91 81 81 71	ı
(m	Film's Source	81 94 94 81	ı
in	Love Has No Pride	10-1 10-1 12-1 9-1	ı
. * "	Bold Oriental	121 111 121 121	1
•	Minuties Prince	121 121 121 121	J
:	Saucalto Ray	142 11-1 121 14-1	ł
	Supreme Sound	141 121 141 141	١
	Mister Pink	141 141 181 141	I
	Poler Flight	141 151 181 141	١
	Maradi	16-1 16-1 12-1 20-1	I
	Top Shell	161 161 201 201	ı
	Heart Of Armor	161 181 201 201	Į
	Sheer Face	201 201 181 201	I
	Blue Rher	251 251 181 161	١
	Fantal	251 221 201 261	I
	Princess Topaz	334 284 281 254	J
	City Gauthler	334 334 284 334	i
	Red Embers	861 501 331 501	ı
:	4	he odds, places 1.2.3,4	ı
	N a A at to time		ĕ

2.00 MANTLES PRINCE (nap).

2.30 Shock Value

3.00 Desert Story

saddled Hidden Meadow to think he'll go there with an win the Free Handicap by five outstandingly good chance." unflustered lengths, and Lanfranco Dettori, the man he helped into the plate. "The winning margin says it all," Dettori said. "He's got a great cruising speed and a bit of a kick, and you've got to respect anything that wins a trial by five lengths." Nor was n just the dis-

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Teejay'n'aitch (Ayr 4.55) NB: Cape Cross (Newmarket 3.00)

tance separating Hidden Meadow from Granny's Pet (like the winner, a son of Balding's top miler Selkirk) that made an impression. It was also the eager-ness with which he galloped for the line on fast, rising ground, which is something that sever-al runners this week have been

very reluctant to do. "I think he's better than his father was at this stage," Bald-ing said. "Selkirk was just half a horse as a two-year-old and a proper horse at three and I think this one could be the same. He's done terribly well. He defintely runs in the Guineas and 1 frame on 3 May.

NEWMARKET 2.06: Intyati, among the early-price favourites, is hard to assess but MANULES PRINCE, from an inform yard, has each-way prospects.

2.30: Firm ground on many a home gallop is making it difficult to sharp-en first-time-out runners. Peter Chapple-Hyam says Derby entry Panama City is hard to get fit and that today's race will be needed. SHOCK VALUE, too, is sure to be etter for today's outing but the fact

4.05 Treasure Touch

4.35 Dilizience

5.05 Arpeggio

With so much confidence welling up in the winners' enclosure, it was inevitable that a run would develop nn Hidden Meadow in the ante-post market. The Tote initially cut the colt to 14-1 from 50-1 for the Classic on 3 May, but after taking £5,000-worth of bets in a quarter of an hour, had a rapid rethink and sliced off another four points. The 14-1 with William Hill lasted a little longer, but that firm too was quoting just 11-1 (the best price still available with a major lay-er), long before Hidden Meadow was safely locked away in his

box at Kingsclere.

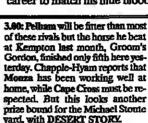
The colt might even have moved into single figures were it not for the fact that Dettori will be claimed by Godolphin to ride Shamikh in the Guineas. While the identity of his partner is as yet unknown, howev-er, punters can at least be sure that Hidden Meadow is fit, talented and goes on the ground, which is more than can be said of several of the ante-post fav-ourites, Shamikh included. This alone does not make him a Clasimproved a lot. Physically he's sic winner, but it will surely be difficult to keep him out of the

that this colt was successful on his

ers at least, there was also a potential Guineas winner in the fillies' maiden, won impressively by Rebecca Sharp. The quality of the field behind her is impossible to judge, but Ge-off Wragg's filly travelled and quickened well, and given that her trainer believes her to be "six lengths better" than Miss Sancerre, fourth in Tuesday's Nell Gwyn Stakes, Rebecca Sharp deserves her place in the 1,000 Guineas, for which she is a 20-1 chance with the Tote.

The favourite for the fillies Classic, Henry Cecil's Sleepy-time, runs at Newbury tomorrow, and will be expected to complete a swift family double following the success of Ali-Roy-al, her brother, in the Earl of Sefton Stakes.

This was a first Group race success this season for Cecil and his new stable jockey. Kieren Fallon, and there will no doubt be many more to follow, some perhaps courtesy of Dokos, who completed a double for trainer and jockey in the Wood Ditton Stakes. He too has an illustrious relative - his full sister is Miesque, the 1987 1,000 Guineas winner, and his victory yesterday held the promise of a career to match his blue blood.



debut here last year is a plus. Bold Words has the advantage of having 3.36: CAPTAIN COLLINS may be better suited to this fast ground th



Ali-Royal leads home Wixim and Amrak Ajeeb

Photograph: Peter Jay

RESULTS

2.06: 1. CHICKOWICKA (1 Sprake? 33-1; 2. Tregions 4.1 (ar. 3. Emerging Burket 1.4-1; 4. How Long 7-1. 1.8 ran. won by 1., 1.7., Tranect by 8 Palmy at Cochedge, South (Bamorgan), Tote: £52.70; £9.10, £1.80, £5.30, £1.70. Dual Forecast: £152.10.

Computer Straight Forecast: £144.37. Inc-ast: £1,843.61. Tho: £635.40.

581; 11,643.01. Inc. 1635.40.
2.35: 1. All-ROYAL IV, Fallon) 11.-4 (av; 2. Whitm 9-1; 3. Amraik Ajeeb 12-1, 11 ran. 2. rh. (if Cect), Newmarkett, Tobe: £2.90; £1.50, £3.00, £4.00. DF: £11.70. CSF: £23.53, Inc. £113.10.

3.05: 1. HIDDEN MEADOW IL Dehon! 5-1

15-11, Habbert Meadown (I. Denom v. Den

3.40: 1. AMGUS-G (K Derley) 4-15 fac; 2. Gelopino 10-1; 3. Hezard A Guess 6-1; 4. Bowled Over 14-1, 18 ran. 17., 19., (Mrs Mexeley, Salbum), 7ote: £4.40: £1.80 (£3.20, £2.50, £3.30, DF; £37.30, CSF:

537.81. Treast £290.46, 7no: £156.10.
4.15: 1. REBECCA SHARP (M H#s) 4-6 fac, 2. Delitch 6-1; 3. Change For A Buck 8-2, 12 ran, 3½, 1. IG Wings, Normarisch, 1ote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.80, £1.90. DF; £3.60.
CSF: £4.67. Trot: £3.50.

4.45: 1. PACIFICA (L Dettor) 5-1: 2. Kil-Core 5-1; 3. Going Places 20-1. 9 ram. 2-1 for Composition (6th), 2½, hd. (R Boss, Newmarket), 7ote: £3.70; £1.10, £1.60, £3.80, DF: £16.80, CSF: £26.71, Tot: £84.10.

5.20: 1. DOKOS IK Falloni 9-2: 2. Reggte Buck 33-1; 3. Lord Eurolink 16-1, 20 ran, 100-30 fav The Prince (4th), 3, nk, (H Cecil, Newmerker), 7cter £5.10; £2.10, £5.00, £3.50, DF: £127.20, CSF: £144.30.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £17,409.25 car-ried forward to Newmarket today).

CHELTENHAM

2.20: 1. TALATHATH (R Johnson) 5:4: 2.

All Superior of the Computer Storm 9-1. 5 ran. 12, 4, (D Nicholson, Temple Guing). Totor £2.10; £1.20, £1.30. Dual Forecast £1.30. Computer Straight Forecast £2.62. Non Runner: Supplier Son. 2.55: 1, SEEX THE FAITH (R Durwoody)

2.55: 1. SEEK THE FAITH (R Durwoody)
2-1 far; 2. Newtands-Beneral 9-2; 3. Red
Bean 11-4. 8 ran. 1/4, 6. (M Sheppard, Led
bury). Tota: £2.60: £1.70, £2.40. DF:
£5.10. CSF; £9.72.
3.30: 1. GOURBARR, (A P McCoy) 11-4
far; 2. The Tolsonch 11-2; 3. El Don 3-1.
9 ran. 2. head, (M Pho, Wellingson). Tota:
£3.10; £1.50, £1.60, £1.60, Duel Forenas:

£5.40, CSF: £17.81, Treast: £44.87, Tre £14.20. 4.00: 1. DOUBLE SILK (Mr E Williams) 15-8 kar, 2. Some-Toy 13-2; 3. Routy Bridge 14-1. 8 ran. 11, 11. (R Wilders, Bath), Tota: £2.40; £1.30, £2.40, £2.00. DF: £15.90. CSF:

4.35: 1. FORMAL INVITATION (R.Johnson) 5-2; 2. Wee Windy 3-1; 3. Greenback 5-6 fav. 4 ran. 9, 6. (D Micholson, Temple Guting). Tote: £3.60. Dual Forecast: £3.60. CSF: £9.07.
5.10: 1. STORMYFARWEATHER (M A Fizgerald) 9-2; 2. Mystic HBI 7-2 fav; 3. Pfinth 14-1: 13 ran. 17. 37. (N Henderson, Lambourn). Tote: £4.20: £1.80. £2.10, £3.10. DF: £8.10. CSF: £18.83. Tricost: £192.58. Troc. £51.80. After a Stewards' inquiry, result unaberale.

igered. cepet: £54.40. Quadpot: £20.70. ce 6: £26.52. Place 5: £25.17. PONTEFRACT

5.30: 1. PENDOLINO (6 Carter) 9-1; 2. Father Dan 7-1; 3. Jean Pierre 4-1. 13 ran, 7-2 fav Kathryn's Pet (4th). 11, 21/2. (M Brittein). Tole: £9.10; £2.10, £2.00. £2.20. DF:

£37.60. CSF: £64.88. Tocast: £274.29. Tro

£109.40. Placepot: £382.40. Quadpot: £51.30. Place 6: £576.52. Place 5: £299.77.

\* THE INDEPENDENT

RACING SERVICES

0891 261 +

973

981

982

NEWMARKET

LOS: 1. CHICKAWICKA (I Sombr) 33-1

	17:0					
3.20	Cherry	HYP The Fac more 3, anch 4.5	50 Do	njuan	Collon	
GOIN	G: Good. Hand gallo	ping course;	run-in 21	Oyds.		_

iii Counte is east of town on A758. Ayr roll station (service from Glasgow) 1m. ADMISSION: Chib S16; Grandstand S8 (Suidents 15), CAPS £41. CAR PARE: Free.
BLINKERED FIRST TEME: May Senset (5.25).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS; None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Height Flame (2.20) & Sound Statement (3.50) have been sent 421 miles by Miss S Edwards from Pulmorough, West Souset; Rachael Po Owner (4.56) sent 408 miles by C Weedon from Childingfold, Surrey; Harbet House (3.20) sent 408 miles by R O'Sullivan from Whitcombe, Darset.

2.20 TEREATH OF FRESH AYR' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £3,500 3m 110yds
1 40511P SPRING DOUBLE (13) N Twiston-Dones 8 11 12 C Lieuwillyn
2 02213 MAGPIE MELODY (17) (D) L Lungo 6 11 7
3 , 0 BRIGHT FLAME (36) Miss S Edwards 5 11 2Mr 7 Hills
4 21423 FIDDLING THE FACTS (26) N Handason 8 11 2 M A Filmstald
5 GENTLEMAN AM R CLARE 7 11 2 D Months
6 63-05P NAUTILUS THE THEED (83) M Hammond 8 11 2 R Contity
.7 3-0213P REVER BAY (26) Mass H Knight 6 11 2 Culloty
8 40-0245 SHARIAKANNEN (61) J (Grg 5 11.2T J Morphy
9 0 DOWSHI (27) Liungo 6 10 11
10 - 004 MY MANOURNETH (27) Mrs S Bradhurre 5 10 11
Mr M Bradhume (7)
11 SPRINKLEA TOWER R Mon 4 10 8 B Storry - 31 doctored -
BETTING: 7-4 Fidding The Facts, 3-1 Spring Doeble, 5-1 River Bay, 6-1

Ma	gole Melo	ly, 14-1 Double, Sherlakeand, 16-1 others
2	2.50	ROYAL HIGHLAND FUSILIERS NOVICE. CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m
1	033F11	SINCING SAND (AC) (CD) P Moresth 7 11 12 R December
2		AMERICAN HERO (27) R Alan 9 11 6 B Storey
3		DARRIGO PAST (17) (D) M Hampiond 7 11 B
4		GAROLO (36) (D) C Brooks 7 11 8
5		POWER PACK (25)(D) J Moores (16) 9 11 6 JAr R R Hamilton
6	05-03F3	DESERT BRAVE (17) Mrs 6 Smith 7 11 0Richard Goest
7		FILS DE CRESSON (33) J Adem 7 11.0 7 Rend
8		SOUND STATEMENT (64) MESS S Edwards 8 11 0 L Aspell (3)
9	399	SMART IN SEK (733) Miss L V Russell 8 10 9 A Thoration — 9 declared —
BEJ	THR: 9-4	Carolo, 11-4 Power Pack, 9-2 American Hero, 11-2 Singing
Sta	4, 8-1 Da	ing Past, 14-1 Desert Brave, 16-1 others

3.20 FRIENDLY HOTELS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 4f
1 1203-11 RED BLAZER (76) (D) Mas H Kright B 11 12 J Ostromo
2 3202U1 ZANDER (LT) N Triston-Davies 5 11 7
3 23-1252 ARDARROCH PRINCE (17) Mrs M Reveley 6 11 2 P North
4 O/10P- BONGROVE MAN (390) J Old 7 11.2 MA Flagtonid
5 10 CHERRYMORE (84) Mrs. J. Parren 8 11.2
8 /06/402- SHORDSTAFF (490) Miss L Penat 8 11 2 P Carberry
7 OO SMART IN SOCKS (153) Mass L V Russell 8 11 2 A Thornton
6 GUD STAR MASTER (118) P Moracity 8 11 2
9 F1F HARBET HOUSE (35) R O'Sulvan 4 11 Q N Williamson
10 00-P000 BOHNY RIGHT (19) L Lungo 5 20 11T Reed
11 0 NOWERTSBRIDGE GERT (15) P Hobbs 6 10 11 R Jehnson
12 PP- MINNES TURN (338) W Kemo 6 10 11 S McDownii
13 35-0960 POF BLACKBIRD (17) R Lee 8 10 11
14 5 APACHE LEN (82) M Hammond 4 10 9
15 REGAL EASKE M Hammond 4 10 9R Dummody
16 O THORNTOUN HOUSE (17) J Goldie 4 10 9
- 16 declared -
BETTHR: 4-7 Red Biszer, 7-1 Zander, 8-1 Harbet House, 12-1 Arderrock

S COL GEORGE GRAHAM MEMORIAL HANDICAP

		1 U3/031F 2 F00-213	CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added 3m 1 GENERAL PERSONG (28) (20) ( Microlson 11.12 DR. Johnson WHISPERBOG STEEL (47) (20) (47) 6 Roberts 11.11 11
--	--	------------------------	--

2.10 EBF SHAROW MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 addied 270 5f

\_R Lapple '

HERST BREDGE M W East

SOUCHERS (20 GR) Jery R 0...
STATISHINE TO BEACH 9 0...
WHISTONE GEORGE C Farburs 8 0...
OCCHE VERDI M Johnston 8 9 ...
9 dochers -

2.40 COPT HEWICK CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,500 added 5f

3.10 COCKED HAT 'COCK O'THE NORTH'
HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,325 3YO 1m

RETTRIC: 2-1 Proce, 8-1 Occid Verdi, 7-2 Son 10-1 Imbacinghia, Castin Friend, 14-1 others

n yesterday's Earl of Sefton Stakes			
	E Damwoody		
3-3P021	SEOD RIOGA (17) (D) S Melor 8 11 0		
	CARGEOG GOLD (43) K Balley 8 10 13		
3/0215-6	ANDERMATT (26) J Mades 10 10 11		
1116P-P	WRIDMP (13) (D) Mrs J Storey 8 10 8		
	DORUMAN COLLONGES (40) T Forster 8 20 6 P Carberry		
23-3113	STORMY CORAL (52) (C) (BF) C Parier 7 10 4 E Storey		
122121	NEPMANORE SPEED (127) (D) Mrs 5 Smen 10 10 3 Richard Greet		
12122P	NORTHERN SOURCE (17) (BP) J M Jellerson 9 103		
_	E Collection III		

m weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Danen Ti

-	shares 2	conf. denium Lacrondiff 1-1 page (grafte) 74-1 pages
1	25	EAGLE TAVERNS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 2m 5f 110yds
	U21F05	THE REVEREND SERT (26) (D) 6 Bailing 8 12 (), A Bains (5)
	1-F1231	REAL TONIC (10) 8 Richards 7 11 7 (6edP Carberry
	2/35-10P	LIEN DE PARILLE (65) J Quint 7 11 6 P Niver
	P-34133	SLOTAMATIQUE (73) (BF) G Richards 8 11 4 R Durasoody
	P3212F	COQUI LAME (10) (C) (BF) J Dun 10 11 1
	5U1222	HICHOLAS PLANT (40) (C) (BF) J Golde 8 10 13,G Cobill
	201111	RED BRANCH (26) J Nog 8 1087 J Murphy
	361F21	IGNGS SERMON (17) (C) P Beaumont 8 10 7 Wyer
	F23PP2	BALLYLINE (17) W Kernp 6 10 6
ı	2UF11F	GAFLIC BLUE (17) (BF) Ms 5 Smoth 7 10 3 Richard Guest
	354441	LE DENSTAN (19) (D) Mrs O Thomson 10 10 2 R Johnson
	F00313	CORSTON JOKER (17) (HF) L LINES 7 100 Sopple
	(OP563)	BOB NELSON (721) P Beaumort 10 10 0C Lieuwhyn
	044P/FP	MONDYEROWHERUSINESS (17) R Les 8 10 0 B Fouton

DETINES CT ACU. BETINES 2-1 Rod Spanch, 7-2 Rani Tonic, 8-1 Sanic Sine, 8-1 The Reserved Sert, 16-1 Lieu De Franiës, Cottol Lane, Kings Sermon, 12-1 Others

1.55	ROYAL BURGH OF AYR CONDITIONALS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 2m
	SAMANO (15) (D) Mes L Sidel 5 11 13 D J Knowingh
	SABIT CIEL (47) (D) F Jordon 9 11 12L Aspell
241521	FEN TERREER (119) (D) F Mutters 6 11 11 E Calleghan
006020-	HIGH MIND (362) (D) Miss L Sidtal 8 11 10 E Hisshand
46214P	CITIADRIO (19) (CD) C Thoman 7 11 10
401066	
331416	LATIN LEADER (17) (C) (D) CParker 7 10 8
45-22P3	
1/5U62	SKIDDAW SAMBA (13) Mrs M Revoley 8 10 6 D Lee
	JAINTY GENERAL (111) C Parker 810 4 _C McCormack (5)
	TEFLOT WATCH (17) J Golde 5 10 0S Taylor
	ANLACE (19) (0) S Melor 8 10 0
F05-P06	GALLARDINI (24) (D) B Rothwell B 10 0
41/F340	PARSON'S LODGE (SI) L Lungo 9 10 0

Minimum weight: 10st. Your handkap weight: Parson's Lodge 9st 12th.
BETTING: 4-1 Fen Yerrier, 5-1 Sensiold, 6-1 Stiddiew Sembe, 7-1 Nashri
Star 4-1 Citation 10-1 Parkanik Onto 12-1 others.

30	r, 8-1 CIU	BUIN, 10-1 REGIDERS CHEM, 12-1 COURS	
[	5.25	BREATH OF FRESH AYR' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £3,500 3m 110yds	Ξ
1	36P150	BOSTON MAN (24) R Woodhouse 6 11 7	ł
2	. 205311	CHERRY DEE (19) (CD) P Beaumont 6 11 7 B Gratten (5	ì
3	400	ARCTIC FOX (7) MESS H WORDS 5 11.2	۲
4		BERKDALE L Lungo 6 11 2 A Thombs	a
5	3-30432	WORY COASTER (NZ) (22) B De Hean 6 11 2 J Osborne	è
. 8	0	LA MON DERE (89) P Hobbs 6 11 2 R Dunnoud	,
7	2/1/5	"LAY SUNSET (48) C Elemon 7 11 2	3
6	0-33002	NECK ROSS (10) R Brews 6 11 2	à
9	0500-	SOLDER-B (392) R Curtis 7 11 2	ř
10	50-P55	CLARABELL (19) J Charton S 10 11 Stores	r
11	03-5302	MRS ROBINSON (42) J Macke 6 10 11 F Husband (3)	ı
		_ 11 declared _	
BΕ	TING: 9-4	lvory Coaster, 4-1 Charry Dee, 7-1 May Sanset. 8-1 Nici	t
Ro	e, Boston	Man, 10-1 Britisle, La Mon Dere, 14-1 others	

	9 3330-8 BANTIONE (21) J W Woots B 17 J Corroll 1: 10 000-5 ROTOR MAIN (17) J Berhell B 3 M Heavy (3) 11 630-5 HIGH SPHOUS (12) 7 Eastered L Charmock
HYPERION 2.10 Occhi Verdi 2.40 Palacegate Touch 3.10 High Spirits 3.40 Time Can Tell 4.15 Zoom Up	BETTING: 4-1 Right Time, 9-2 Blooming Amening, 6-1 Hen Herrier, Jap Owe-Two, 8-1 Fixes Tail, High Spirits, 10-1 Get The Point, 12-1 others 3-40 FARIM FED CHICKEN HANDICAP (CLASS D) 6-4 900 parieties 3VD 1 m 4f 60 bets
4.45 Meranti  GOING: Good to Firm.  STALLS: straight.—stands side; round course—inside.  DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best in 1 no races.  If Right-hand course, a sharp track with tight bends.  If Course is east of the eary on 86286. ADMISSION: Club 5.12;  Tattersalls 58 (OAPs £T; Säver Ring 5.4 (OAPs £3); Course 52.50  (accompanied under-16s (ree all enclosures). CAR PARE: Free.  BLINERED FIRST TIME: None.  WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Jay-Owe-Two (*1.10) won at  Beverley on Pridey; Johapro (4.45) won at Masselburgh on Monday.	1 44630-1 BYATAMA (27)   Dunko B 7.
LONG-DESTANCE EURNEES: Rea Harrier (3.10) & Bustonia (3.40) sent 273 miles by J Danlop from Arundel, West Sussex.	- 9 declared - Minimum weight: 7st 10th. Tope handicap weight: Mics Bortelons 7st 0th. BETTENE: 3-1 Regionia, 7-2 Time Can Test, 9-1 Michael Venture, Sad Mar

Bad,	6-1 <b>H</b> ut	abari, 8-1 Nobie kwestment, Classic Mysh	ery, 16-1 other
Ä	45	ELANDERS UK MAIDEN STAK	ES (CLASS
4	72	ELANDERS UK MAIDEN STAK D) £4,900 added 3YO 1m	
1	60-	HEURT OF GOLD (190) Mes 6 Hall 90	
2	-	NO GROUSING P Hastern 90	
3	. 03	PROMINEROT (23) Mrs. V Acontay 6 0	M Peeding 9
4	22-	SILVERANI (159) L Curren 9 0	
5	00-	THE TIG (199) L Voyd-James RO	T <b>VFRance</b> 7
6		ZOOM UP II Heaton-Big 9 0	
7	04-	FAUNA (181) N Garam 89	D Harrison 6
Ř		HEVER BOLF ANGEL P Hastam 8 9	Weaver 1

ì	445	NEWBY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS
Ì	71.10	NEWBY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 5f
	405025	CHADWELL HALL (#) (CD) S R Bowing 88 12 JF Boyle (10) 8 h
2	2 000040-	LADY SHERRET (160) (D) M W Easterly 6R 12
	-	C Lowther (3) 19 5
	2-34010	RAMSEY HOPE (46) (C) (D) C Fairhust 4 99_J Demis 18 \
4	3150-00	BARGOD (17) (D) Mrs J Ramsten 6 8.8 China West (R) 5
ļ	4050-33	TROPICAL BEACH (7) (D) J Berry 4 9 7 P Bradley (10) 9
ŧ	331000	RIVER TERM (176) J M Bradley 4 9 6 Foreign (5) 4
ì	7 532350-	NED'S BONNANZA (1780 (D) M Doza 8 9 4 P Fredericks (5) 2
Į	3 50-3500	SPEC WITH THE BAND ON ON 8 MOMENTS 693 & Printers 80 14
	41406-8	BARRANAK (22) (CD) G McCourt 5 8 2 R Startholme (G) 12
	ID 0600-61	JOHAYRO (3) (0) J Golde 4 8 2 (7ed
	1 80600-0	RICH GLOW (6) (D) X Bycsoft 8 R 1
1	12. 211420	KALAR (17) (0) 0 Chapman 8 R 0 T Side (5) 16 8
	13 244202-	DOMBNELLE (190) (C D) T Extently 58 13 Chroben Boint (5) 15
	4 4000-12	SALK COTTAGE (S) (D) (BF) R Whitelet 5 8 12
	5 020443	DOUBLE OSCHR (56) O Nichols 4810 Journa Dunies (10) 12
1	5 4000-01	MERANTI (9) J Bridgy 4 B 8 (7st)Victoria Applicby 11
	7 560060-	GIGUULU (222) (D) PBons 4 8 6
1	15 OT 430-0	SUMSET HARBOUR (21) (D) 8 Kettleard 4 8 3
	0 888 884	learny Branton (B) ?

PONTEFRACT

2.45: 1. YOUNG BAR U F Egam: 16-1;

2. The Boy John 4-1; 3. Mannen's Boy 5-2 g-lav. 10 ran. 5-2 g-lav Bernardo Bellotto (4th. sht.nd., 174. (P Evans). Tote: £26.20; £2.50, £1.30, £1.50. Dust Forecast: £61.30, Computer Straight Forecast: £74.15. Thu: £36.80. Non Rumner: Leather And Sorm.

3.20: 1. DAVYILLE U Wesser; 10-1; 2. Song Mist 11-2; 3. Falls O'Moness 12-1.

23 ran. 2-1 fav Bold Gayle. 3, 74, U Bertyl. Tote: £77. £260, £2.80, £4.20, Dust Forecast: £26.20. CSF: £60.02. Theast: £631.82. This: £475.20 (part won, 9 pool of £301.23 is carred forward to the Newmarket 4.05 to 3,50: 1. KYLE RHEA (W Ryan) evens tw: 2. Jaunty Jack 2-1; 3. Red Grand 6-1. 10 ran. nk, 9. (H Cecol. Totac £1,90; £1:10, £1:10, £1:60. DF: £2.40, CSF: £2.84. Tao:

4.25: 1. GOLD LANCE (R Hughes) 11-1: 2. Square Millo Mills 20:1; 3. Dictation 10:1; 4. Monits 33:1; 18 ran. 3:1 fev Loch Style. nt. 2%. (R 0'Suffixm). Totale: £14.30; £2.80, £9.70, £2.90, £10.30. Dual Forecast: £300.80. CSF: £218.54. Treast: £1.275.02.

2. Rapter 7-1; 3. Captain Scott 12-1, 11 ran. 2-1 fav Over To You. %, 3. (P Cole). Tote: £18.60; £3.40, £2.90, £5.80. DF: £38.40. CSF: £121.54. Yno: £116.30.

10.1.2: REART TURE (21.6) B Harbury 9 7 M Riverser 2
212390- WEN HAVRINER (158) J Durich 9 5 J Wenner 1
021-022: JAN-OWESTWO (8) R Witchier R 4 (Bod \_ Dean McKenner 11
4-0680 J CANT REMEMBER (2), 00 P Borns 8 3 J F Egen 5
501316- PENSION RUNO (224) M W Easterty R 3 J Luces 8
315010- RUNGS TUR. (17.9) (1 Meo 6 Hall 8 1 J Revisure 9
2000-1 B EDORNING AMAZING (12.6) J 1 Egen R 0 J T Williams 6
604-464 GETTHE PORT (12.) R Holinshand 6 13 J F Lynch (5) 4

John Wilcon

ins Come Carrier and tarts

■ Right-hand course with 1rt 2f straight.

■ Course is SW of town on A1304. But link from Cambridge and Newmarket stations. ADMISSION: Club 5.15 (16 to 25-year-olds 58); Grandstand & Paridock £10 (18 to 25-year-olds E5); Family Enclosure 53. CAR PARK; Mombers £1; remainder free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH ZUNNERS: I Gowlen — 41 whmers from 288 runters gives a success rates of 14.2% and a loss to a £1 k-vel stake of £73.17; R Hasmon — 39 whmers, 487 runters, 54.2%, -5231.06; J Danilop — 29 whmers, 270 vunters, 10.7%, -5103.06; B Hills: — 28 whysios, 251 runcest, 11.2%, -£107.26.

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Baldsty — 101 winners, 484 rities; 30.9%, -£37.32. L Dettor! — 66 winners, 470 rides, 14%, -£175.14; W R Swissburn — 44 winners, 306 rides, 14.4%, +57.17; J Reid — 34 whners, 336 rides, 10.1%, -538.18.

BLINERERSD FIRST TIME: Mone.

WINNERS IN LOST SEVEN DAYS: Treasure Touch (4.05) won at Nottinghum on Fridsy. LONG-DESTANCE RUNNERS: Heavy The Frond (4.35) & Risky Whisky (5.05) have been send 213 railes by J Berry from Cockertam, Lunes: 2.00 NGK SPARK PLUGS HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,500 added 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £6,068

HYPERION

GOUNG: Good to Firm. STALES: 2.30 & 3.30 – stands side; rest – far side.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Right-hand course with Lm 2f straight.

1996: Price Gwing 3 R 6 M Hats 9-1 (6 Wraggs 10 RM STALBOT carmed over his juvenile promise to win from the front at Safabury three weeks ago. Pat Eddery rode him that day and he's now on Rhver's Source, who paught a rest that in Fly for the Stars at Doncaster last month after his juvenile printles at Safabury and tar in Fly for the Stars at Doncaster last month after his juvenile printles at Safabury and tar in Fly for the Stars at Doncaster last month after his juvenile printles at Safabury and Leonster. River's Source looks good for the frame with that run behind him, but St. Talbot Leonster. River's Source looks good for the frame with that run behind him, but St. Talbot as a typical Richard Hannon type who can progress further but longer the longer top, safabure from his top of the safabury last who will be from beating at Haydook He's not be far away after a typical performence in beating Mr Bombastique at Haydook He's just 4th higher foday and he's a confirmed stayer. John Dunlop's listiyati was a 25-1 wigner at Warwick (7f) at the backend and is bred for today's longer trip. She there won a near at Warwick (7f) at the backend and is bred for today's longer trip. She there won a near at Warwick (7f) at the backend and is bred for today's longer trip. She there won a nursery over a mide on the July Course and was then upped in class. He's back against handcappers today and is another to consider as an each-way bet. Sheer Face is from that went well with Just Nick here on Tuesday, while Manuthas Prince and Equities stolled that went well with Just Nick here on Tuesday, while Manuthas Prince and Equities stolled that went well with Just Nick here on Tuesday, while Manuthas Prince and Equities to the description of the prince of the prince of the start was a SiR TALBOT brack, where Top Shelf will come on the seasonal runs.

2.30 GREENE KING FELDEN STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed)

1.13120 RECONDITE (200) (C) (P O Swell M Charmon 8 0 1. During 8 11 P. Bulley 2 108

2.41122 BARMIN SANDS (157) (Myssiled Forms Start (c) ) During 8 11 P. Bulley 2 108

3.00110-1 BOUL WORDS (CAN) (S) (C) (Distriction of Majorani E During 8 11 M. Fellon 6 108

4. 22 Control of Majorani A Majorani E During 8 11 M. Fellon 6 108

5. 212 PANMAR CRY (ISA) (279) (R E Sweller) P. Chapter Ham 6 11 M. R Miles 2 11

5. 212 PANMAR CRY (ISA) (279) (R E Sweller) P. Chapter Ham 6 11 M. J. Raid 4 103

213 SHOCK VALLE (195) (G) Selsake Nata) M Stone 8 11 M. J. Raid Miles 1 100

214 SHOCK VALLE (195) (G) Selsake Nata) M Stone 8 11 M. J. Raid Miles 1 100

215 SHOCK VALLE (195) (G) Selsake Nata) M Stone 8 11 M. J. Raid Miles 1 10.1 - 7 declared -82TTMC: 9-4 Crimson Tide, 5-2 Burners Sands, 5-1 Shock Value, 6-1 Bold Words, 10-1 Panama

BETTINE: 9-4 Crimson Tide, 5-2 Barrann Seeds, 5-1 Stock Years, 1-1 Secondities
1990: Sorm Trophy 3 8 11 Per Eddey 2-1 (K Cecili 11 am Forem Gume)
Reumon's wan on Tuesday confirmed the well-being of John Hilbs's houses and crimsoning the his Derby prospects a boost. Backed as though a talented coft on his debut, TIDE can give his Derby prospects a boost. Backed as though a talented coft on his debut, TIDE can give his Derby prospects a boost. Backed as though a talented coft on his debut, TIDE can give his Derby prospects a boost. Backed as though a talented of on his debut, TIDE can give his Derby mission, Tide was unlike in the won costly from Deneting. He wants this money wasn't and is talent to be a bit better class then Barnama Samds. Out of an Obels who not, Barnam Samds, Out of an Obels who not, Barnam Samds, out of an Obels who not fight not. Barnam Samds, out of an Obels who not flow his period and he almost prinched a with over High not. Barnam Samds, out of an Obels who have the his Department his Chepstow and Portaintect for a suggests. He went on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing ground at Sam Suggests. He went on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing ground at Sam Suggests. He went on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing ground at Sam Suggests. He went on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing ground at Sam Suggests. He went on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing ground at Sam Suggests. He want on to finish second to helde in a Group One in testing group of the province of the provinc

١.		CITY INDEX CRAVEN STAKES (CLASS A) (Erota 3) £30,000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £19,188 £30,000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £19,188 £30,000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £19,188	
1 73	- 00	CITY INDEX CRA/EN STAKES (CLASS A) (actual of the company of the c	ľ
П	3.UU }	630,000 added 3YO 1m Petrarry Venue 1 M 5 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M 1 M	
<b>-</b>		DESERT STORY (175) KS) (Assissors A Melaporn) M Shoute 8 12	
1	1221	DESENT STORY CLTS for the Control Charles C Belgin 8 9 Library 8 120 East C 1801 (Mohammed Charles C Belgin 8 9 Library 8 120 CAPE CROSS (216) (D) Christin Mohammed J Gordon 8 9 Library 8 120 CAPE CROSS (216) (D) Christin Mohammed J Control 8 9 Library 8 120 Library 8	
2	313163	ARR 2019ESS (285) (D) (Sheish lighermed)   Societ 8 8   Description   Cuper CROSS (215) (D) (Sheish lighermed)   Cuper   LCurrent 8 9   Pat Saleny 6 120   Cuper Chief 13   Cuper Chief 1 122   Charles Short (186) (R) (RE Songster)   Chappie Hyeri 8 8   Description   Chief 1 122   Chappie Hyeri 8 8   Description   Chief 1 122   Chappie Hyeri 8 8   Description   Chief 1 125   Chie	
13	41	CAPE CROSS (226) AS Mrs 7 Won Halle & M Year Orners) L Current & S Read 1 112 GRAVESHOT CASO AS Mrs 7 Won Halle & M Year Orners) L Current & S Read 1 112 MCMCA (USA) [194] RE Sengster P Chapple Hyern & S Read   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RE Sengster P Chapple Hyern & S Read   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RE Sengster P Chapple Hyern & S Read   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RE Sengster P Chapple Hyern & S Read   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   READ   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   READ   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   READ   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   READ   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   RESENGE   Death Of Mrs 1 1126 MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   Death Of MCMCA (USA) [194] RESENGE   Death Of MCMC	
l a	3121-	CHARLES COME IN E Sungstern P Chapper Police Communication	•
5	717.	MONOX (USA) P. STANDI R HEMOD S S	
ă	2000	PELMAN (13) PA (15) (15) (Disch Conson) P Method 88	
! ;	002-17	Charles State Ram R Alchus 88	
Ŕ	7213	PELMAN (19) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (5) (6) (6) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7	•
l "		SEN-TANE (187) National - Received Received Received Received	

BETTING: 13-4 Monza, 100-30 Depart Story, 4-1 Grapes Bress, 12-1 Shil-Take, 20-1 Ramaing Stag Bress, 12-1 Shil-Take, 30-1 Rest 9-2 U Dursion 5 tin 1896: Boxichamp King 3 9 0 J Rest 9-2 U Dursion 6 comments

1898: Beauthering Ring 3 9 0 J Red 9-2 () Durling 5 ran
PORTAL GUIDE

This has a sub-standard look and Deserts Fronty can dely his Group Three penalty for
the has a sub-standard look and Deserts fronty can dely his Group Three penalty for
the sub-standard look and pessent strong to the sub-standard look and pessent story's senthering Royal American the Horis His Stakes at Newbury. That was Desert Story's senthering Royal American the Horis His Stakes at Newbury. The times the sub-standard pertended in the sub-standard pertended in the sub-standard pertended to the control of the control of the sub-standard pertended in the sub-standard pertended in the sub-standard personal three sub-standard in the Deshirus.
The sub-standard Deshit Story. Air Durling withing the sub-standard persub-standard per
The sub-standard per
Th

could just be found out today. Cape Cross could be anything after a maiden win over a mile at Doncaster and the winness of three subsequent races have emerged from that race. Richard Hennon loves besting the so-called stars and Pelham comes here fit and fancied ster a four-length win from Groom's Condon in the Easter Stakes at Kempton. Shift-Take

12	20	BHS GOLDEN JUBILEE MAIDEN STAKES (CL	ASS MINISTER
<b>3.</b>	30	D) £6,000 added 3YO 6f Penalty Value £4,	503
1	24-	BINTANG TIMOR (USA) (180) (1811 Sultan Ahmad Shah) P Cole 8 0	
2	05-	BLOOD ORANGE (167) (6 6 Margarson) 6 Margarson 9 0	N Pay 9 86
3	23-	CAPTAIN COLLINS (173) (R E Sangales) P Chapple-Hyam 9 ()	Reid 4 92
4	0-0	DANLEY REGIENT (17) (Ron Parsons) C Cycer 9 0	K Fallog 10 76
5			Paul Eddery 3 -
6.	- 00-	JOHN'S PRINCE (182) (Four Score Racing) C Munay 8 0	K Darley 12 54
.7	2	MASTERPECE (22) (Lady Terrient) R Henron 80	Pat Eddory 6 61
!B '	·· õ	MEDICAGO CAMA (19) (Littlano Goucel) M Set 8 0	M Roberts 2
· 9 · ·		SHADOOF DAS HISTORY WING BO	- Dane O'Hell 7
10		SOVIET LEADER (Matthews Breeding and Racing) R Guast 8 0	C Duffield 1 -
11	0-	WONDERSOY (196) (Formy Lich R Alebrast 9 0	S Sanders 6 85
12 _	25-		\$ Stack 8 80
DEPT	D-4K	Contain Colline 11.4 Biotesa Timor E.1 Mantamiana 10.4 Mar	started 16.1 Million

BETTIME: 4-5 Captain Collins, 11-4 Richard Timor, 5-1 Ma Call, Shedoof, 20-1 Pat Seld No., 25-1 others 1996: Lionizo 3 8 11 J Reid ovens (P.Chappie-Hyan) 5 san

CAPTAIN COLLINS is the size act in the are and he may have the class to bounce back from juverille runs over seven furious and a mile to best Mesterplece. Odds-on when best an on his debut at Rempton and then in the soft ground when third to Tempting Prospect at Newbury, this highly-rated son of El Eran Senor is a full-brother to it de Justice, who landed the Breeder's Cup Sprint last October. Bintang Tiesor, another costly failure on his juverille debut at Ascot, was then found of six to Crimson Tide over seven furious here. He has to rate a threat on form.

-			area or tone	CONTRACTOR OF PROPERTY	~-
	2	1.05	EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS I £7,500 added 3YO 8f Penalty Value	ANDICAP (CLA £6,360	SS C
	1		YORKOE GEORGE (189) (D) (M J Devision) L Cumpol 9 7		
	2		ARROHAM (224) (Hamden Al Melabum) P Wahyo 94		
	3:	09151-2	ELLENS LAD (20) (C) (EF) (Mrs Chrs Harrington) R Harring	n 9 3 Dane 1	O'Noll o
	4	14	CHESRY BLOSSOR (\$32) (*Brickete Racing Ltd) R Hanno	093 Pf	obes 15
	5	. 16-	ICE AGE (M.S.) (Peter Charter) R Williams R 3	K	Darley 2
	8 .	424-11	PLANSER D'AMOUR (14) (M Tabor) N Collegtion 9 0	Pat I	dday 6
	. 7·	-21540-0	RUDE AWAKENING (26) (Milliam HID) C Politicas 8 11		atted T
•	6	6-30111	TREASURE TOUCH (6) (D) (N Hongurer) O Micholis 8 11	17ml Inna Wood	k (7) 10
	9		ABGEAR SOURD (158) (D) (Theobakis Stud) H Aktury 8 1	0	16ml 1
	<b>%</b>	51-4	MEFUSE TO LOSE (19) (D) (BF) (J C Smith) J Eustace 8 9	P Cock	70
	11		PAPITA (19) (D) (G Stainburg S Dow 8.8		
		332402	MARGAD (178) (R F NBby) R Alertuget 8 8		Carter D
٠	13	MALO	MICHAELIT SHET (2) (C.) Miles R Guest 8 7	Pro	H64 14
			STYLE DANCER (15) (0) (Mrs. C.A. Hodgetts) R Whitsher 8		
•			A BREEZE (26) (The Mirror Purses Clots) O Monis 8 B		
•			SALTIMERANCO (182) (Normandy Developments) R Alichus		
	17		JOHN EMIS (22) (MF) (Richard Green (Fine Pentings) M		
		4280	MICHS AND WONDERS (250) (R M Ogen) C Ogen 7 12.	10	13
٠	19	512152	ENCHANGING EVE (21) (D) (Neumaniet Connections) C A	en 7 11 . Martin Dett	E (3) 17
	20	20.0	BATSMAN (22) (Ex-Recession Partnership) W Museon 7 1	Declare C	Shee 6
	-		- 20 deciared -		
	14		to Tet 10th Year handless welche Determen Tet 0th		

bifultrum weight: 7st 10th. Tue handlogs relight: Bastman 7st 9th.

BETTMit: 6-1 Tyeomer Touch, 7-1 John Emms, 8-1 Refuse To Lone, Plaint: D'Amour, 9-1 Papits, 10-1 Rada Anahening, Marsed, Eliene Lad, Style Dencer, Cherry Blosson, 12-1 Arreben, Yorlda George, 14-1 tee Age, Sentimenson, Eschenting Des, 20-1 others
1990: Geltes 3 8 1 8 Senders 6-1 (N O'Gomen) 15 and FORM GUIDE
Papits has every chance with a run under her belt and with a draw near the favoured for side oil. So improvemble when winning at Groothough on her second is used a star, who mustic

Propiles has every chance with a run under her belt and with a draw near the favored for side rat. So impressive where winning at Goodwood on her second juvenile start, she might just poil it off again after a creditable seasonal strengt at Kempton when a five-length sorth to Supercal. She wear't given a hard time when hald and she can reverse the form with the tiffel and lourit, Sighe Gancer and Rentance To Lose. But the threat near the foot of the handicap, JOHNE SHEES, gets the nod despite a low draw. John Emma will be fighting fit after a Policestone zan, admittedly a disappointing one, when second to Wee Dram. Tree-saws favorships and to have been sent at the last week. But this getting in now in this stronger mae. Philatel of Amour has won twice over seven harborg this season at Locaszar. She did overcome fast ground on both occasions and this well-witared surface will suit, but the furlong-shorter tip sets her a task. Ellens Lad, a nursery withere here less backend and bound to come on for his second to Brutal Farkeay at Doncaster.

4.35 EBF STUNTNEY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2YO 5f Pennitty Value £4,347

1 3 BLARESET (N) (No. Choline Parker) R Harron 8 11. R Region 4 DILLIERUSE (No. Blue City Group) P Cate 8 11. J Quine 2 3 1 EMPEROR HAMBEM (Mrs. Bitms. Meeting) 8 Meeting 8 12. Part Eddery 6 4 HEIMEY THE PHOLIN (Cres Deutens) J Bory 8 11. K Darloy 1 5 MANDON MAY COME J Winney M Templetre 8 11. R Hills 7 6 OPPOSIZION LEADER (Stephen Crown) B Hills 8 11. M Hills 3 7 TIMERIESPER (MRA) (C M Ward M Boll 8 11. M French 5

5.05 CITY PIDEX POLITICAL BETTING STAKES (CLASS C) £8,900 added 240 5f Penalty Value £4,213 01 INQUELON (21) (D) (P O Smill) R Hollmahand 9 4
12 INDUSTRIBUTE (P) (D) (DP) (D Burry) J Burry 9 2
AGNUL (USA) (Flightime Thomoglated Racing Lich 8 Lewis 8 9
Adhresian (D Tabo) N Callagran 8 9
SECOND WIND (David J Simptori) P Cole 8 R T E Durenn (5) 6
Paul Schlery 4
L Detter 3
Paul Bidlery 2
T Quien 5

- 6 stetland 
\*\*BETTING: 13-4 Amil; 3-1 Chiefinia, 7-2 Second Wind, 4-1 Arpeggo, 7-1 Migration, 8-1 Bioly Whicky

1988: Marchine 2 R 4 R Hughes 8-11 (M-Champar) 4 am

FORM: Marchine 2 R 4 R Hughes 8-11 (M-Champar) 4 am

FORM: State of the pair with expecience have a peranty to dely and Richard Harmon's Arpeggio takes the
eye with Reside Dettor! booked, The son of Poler Palcon's a February Red. Neallin Calleghan's

CHIEFTAIN, also a February Red. Is Seely to be tisseld: Pat Endery is booked. A win by Diggeocs in this presents race will be a pointer to stablemate Second Wind, a won of Kris out
of a Retingle maps and a March fool. Nitipusion is out to further boost the Brockleaby form
but he made heavy weather of winning a small race at Neucostic atter Donocaster, Heaydook
deout winner Reaky Whilety Opied to give 1.10 to Piery Brigg at Hamilton, He has a softground step so might be at a diserbancage on radey's surface.

Selection: CHEFTAIN

# It was pretty obvious two years ago that some did not take kindly to the progress Woods was making. His cool demeanour upset them

The first time I saw Tiger Woods man to play in the Masters but none live, as against catching glimpses of had shown such potential. What effect were those of caddies, barbard and shown such potential. What effect were not as feet so him on television, was at the 1995 Masters. Making his first appearance at August National, barely 19 years old, invited as the US Amateur champion, he had made a tidy par at the first and was about to play the second.

Already something of a name in golf. Woods had plenty of people rooting for him. Off went the ball on its 300-yard journey and as Woods strode after it a small white boy standing alongside the fairway called out: "Go get 'em, Tiger." This was acknowledged with the smile that is now part of a multi-million

fect, I wondered, would its realisation have on golfs white establishment, hecause it was pretty obvious two years ago that some did not take kindly to the progress Woods was making. Unquestionably, his cool demeanour upset

Asked at a news conference what the invitation meant to him. Woods replied: "The opportunity to be on a great golf course with the world's best players." Enough, but not enough for the bystander who muttered: "Just another uppity nigger."

Disgusting but hardly surprising. After all, it is not that long since Woods was oot the first hlack the only hlack faces at Augusta Na-

uncomfortable because of his Mexican blood that he changed in the

As Woods moved closer to corooation last Sunday he thought about the handful of hlack players who preceded him in the Masters. "Without them none of this would have been possible," he said, it was exactly the right thing to say if only because his remarkable victory has led, inevitably you may think, to glib assumptioo.

To suppose that Woods has demolished social barriers in golf is to be in ignorance of prevailing in-



there are clubs in the United States and this country where he is not guaranteed a welcome.

The guiding spirits in golf are for to be in ignorance of prevailing in-fluences, the irrefutable fact that of at least middle age. Liberal in-

many clubs have more than one or two black members? How many hlack players do you see on the European Tour?

If, as seems likely, Woods goes on to dominate golf things may well change, but nobody should hold their breath in anticipation. After all, hlack success in sport has not altered the lot of black people

The truth, unfortunately, is that it takes a damn sight more than sporting prowess to hreak down racial discrimination. Going beyond the civil rights movement as an objective, Muhammad Ali helped to internationalise black consciousness

becoming as segregated as they were 40 years ago. What did Carl Lewis's monu-

mental athletic achievements do for the hlack population of his hirth-place, Philadelphia? "He is a credit to his race, the human race," an American sportswriter, the late Jimmy Cannon, said famously about one of the greatest of heavyweight champions, Joe Louis, A fine sentiment and yet said not long before a liberal president, Franklin D Roosevelt, voted against an anti-lynching bill, his eyes on the South-

stincts are not strong in them. So-cial issues come into this but how as much as anybody, And yet a re-port issued in the US last week statport issued in the US last week stated that America's schools are in major league baseball. A highly intelligent man, Robinson was also a hard case who could handle vicious attempts at intimidation. And yet his early death was said to be partly the result of having to deal

with ongoing prejudice.
We need to understand that politically correct terminology does little more than obscure racism. Fame to go with the view that he may well be the greatest of all golfers will not provide Tiger Woods with complete immunity from attempts to discredit him. As for changing the face of golf, it is a marvellous idea into which youth may breathe some life It was 10 more years, 50 years ago hat right now it remains a fantasy,

# Boon teaching Durham the Tasmanian way

hese days, siding with the underdog is a dying vocation and about as fashionable as following 10 pints of ale with a red hot vindaloo. Everyone, it seems, likes a winner, which makes it all the more curious why someooe as successful as David Boon, the recently retired Ayers Rock of Australian cricket, should want to come and captain Durham County Cricket Club, a win-free zone for the whole of last season bar a single victory in the Sunday League

The challenge facing Boon is about as great as it gets, though leading Assam to victory in India's Ranji Trophy would run it

dignities, not least the high price to be paid for being on the margin, where over-inflated salaries have been paid to a host of rapidly dellating players: a sit-uation of high investment and zero return that is close to hringing cricket lovers in Tony Blairland to crisis point

Being a Tasmanian probably helps. Certainly the island triangle that hangs from Australia's underhelly has always had to overcome an inferiority complex where the rest of the

country is involved. There are a lot of similarities between Durham and what Tassie was like six or seven years ago," says Boon, idly fin- Durham's splendid HQ are as gering his diamond earstud as he and the rest of Durham's middle order watch the openers give the students of Oxford

University the runaround. "So when Geoff Cook [Durham's director of cricket] flew out to have a chat about what had been happening, I really had no hesitation in coming. I saw it as a good challenge motivated. Now I in here I can definitely feel the change of attitude and direction we made Derek Pringle meets the new messiah of Chester-le-Street and finds a man well versed in the problems he and his team face over the coming months

back there. Hopefully that experience can help Durham.

"I like to look at last season in a positive light in that the only way for us to go is up. That hegins with attitude and I want us to go out there and feel we can win. Not just to turn up and expect to lose."

He says that Durham al-ready feels like home and that his wife Pip and their three children are all excited by the move. Mind you, one thing Morale in the North-east is not high and Boon must rekin-homely is the square at Chesterdle the enthusiasm of a team le-Street. Unlike Boon's home that has suffered numerous in- track at the Bellerive Oval in

> The move to appoint Atherton for the whole summer is a positive one, an

Hohart - a hatsman-friendly surface the Australian leg-spinner Kerry O'Keefe once called the Autobahn - the pitches at spiteful as they come. Short of dousing the fruity

wickets with Agent Orange, however, he has been given more or less a free rein to mould the team to his requirements but admits it will take a little time before he knows the players well enough to realise what his best options are. "As soon as I can remember

as well as something to keep me all the names, my job is to improve the team's performance between the hours of 11 and six. To do that I hope to create a

good team atmosphere that breeds confident and positive

players. I've only been here a few days, but from what I've seen, everyone is just as keen to do well and try and turn things Like Allan Border, the stolid give-no-quarter captain Boon

most resembles as a player, a stint in county cricket has always been something he wanted to No matter how far down a certain road you've gone, you can always learn more. The experience of coming over here, especially during Ashes tours,

> my appetite. To play in differ-ent conditions and have to adapt your game to them is one of the great joys of the game.
> "I almost played for Gloucestershire, but one of my knees needed a hit of a clean-up after a tour of Pakistan. I also got about two inches from signing for Warwickshire in 1994. But at the last minute Dermot Reeve decided they wanted a bowler to replace Allan Donald. When that fell through they ap-proached me again. By then it

was a real bonus and whetted

betraying the ironic humour hidden by the deadpan delivery. He feels that county cricket is on the right path now that four-day cricket is the norm. "Before the change it was a hit slapdash and relied on falsely set-up declarations, unlike Shield cricket in Australia, where every day in the 10match season really counts. Now that you've got four days at 110 overs a day, it allows you

was ton late so they signed Bri-an Lara, which worked out well

for them." The twinkling eyes

to play the game properly.



men. With his junior Merv Hughes moustache, he looks like a polar explorer, though a reputation for a mighty thirst he is reputed to have beaten Rod Marsh's liver wrenching 42can record for beers sunk on the Sydney to London flight means it is more likely to be lager spume 00 his bristles than

Having scored 7,442 runs in 107 Tests for Australia, Boon, before his retirement last year, had managed to climb the game's Mount Olympus without anyone really noticing. The method and the man are distinctly similar and I remember Allan Border once describing him as a man of few words who, when he did open his mouth, For his country, Boon was immediately had the ears of all "Mr Dependable," a batsman those around him.

kept his advice cheap, attributes Durham will be hoping ruh off on their inconsistent. right to say something as any-body else, irrespective of who they are or what they've done. fortable when they walk in, and that they belong there. It's you're in an environment where people clearly believe in you." It was not always like that though, and before taking the 1987 World Cup, Australia had not won so much as a chook

> lost successive Ashes series to a dominant England. "I believe talent goes in circles. When I first started England was on top and we were the ones turned round and England scem to he where we were in 1985."

However, apart from the un-

(chicken) raffle in four years; a

situation made worse by having

questioning motivation that the best leggie going around. bowl all day. He's actually got beloved "Green Baggy" (AusThe beauty about him is that he a strike rate as good as Warbeloved "Green Baggy" (Ausrum. Everybody has as much tralla's distinctive Test cap) has can create pressure as well as ney's," he says with an ever say over men of all ages, Boon be-lieves it was the Aussie selectors and a half runs per over in Test So what does he who broke the mould and laid That way everyone feels com- the foundations for the successes of the last 10 years.

"They decided to pick from much easier to perform when an anofficial squad of about 16 guys and give them as much opportunity as possible over a two-year period. To know that someone was going to stick with you even if you failed gave us all a lot of confidence.

There were other factors and Aussie cricketers of the Eighties were said to suffer from waned, Australia's prospects waxed. It is a syndrome many feel Shane Warne is about to ingetting our butts kicked. Over a ffict upon England's batsmen, 12-year period that's been who have rarely coped well

What advice, if any, does he give the Tasmanian baismen when they take on Victoria and Warne's tweaking them like a He pauses, as if to weigh up whether or not to give anything

away to the old enemy, hut decides to anyway. "We all know that Shane's a "dry" bowler [an expression that means he bowls very few bad balls). That means you really have to concentrate, Botham phobia, and when he not only to keep him out, but to make sure that when that loose delivery does come, you

put the thing away."
Mind you, he feels the pace-

shes has in store for Micha Atherton's men, now that they are taking on a de-Booned Australian side?

"I thought there were a lot of signs of improvement in New Zealand. Also the move to appoint Atherton for the whole summer is a positive one. It's important tu give a team signals like that. When Australia were struggling and rebuilding in the mid-1980's, faith and stability

were important factors. "Of course I'll have to go for our blokes, but if England can go through the summer using a minimal squad, instead of the 30 or so players that have been men Glenn McGrath and Jason called up during the previous with high quality leg-spirmers. Gillespie give Australia's attack
"It's possible, but what you've a useful edge. "Glenn's sharp,
got to look at is that Warney's he's got good control and will have been predicting." Gillespie give Australia's attack two Ashes campaigns, I think it'll he a lot closer than many

#### CRICKET SCOREBOARD First-class matches (First day of four!

HEADINGLEY: Lancashire, with nine first-imings wickets standing, are 244 runs be-hind Yorkshire. Today: 11.30, Concessore was loss
VORNESHEE — First annings
W. D. Moron & Austin
M. J. Mood libru & Martin
D. Bross & Haynes & Washinson
R. A. Feffieborough libre & Washinson
R. S. Punter not our TOR H Churton not out o name not out

IC A Chapman c and b Austin ...

S G What c Finited b hates ...

G M Hamilton c Haynes b Yates ...

I Both low b Yates ...

I Soft low b Yates ...

Sowling: Martin 17.2-3-58-2; Green 18-2-71-0; Austin 13-3-70-2; Yotes 14-2-46-4; Ast-mson 17-3-38-2. Durham won toss ANCASKIRE - First Inglogs S P Techard c Kettleborough I

To best: A Frintoff, N H Fairbrother, G D Lloyd, 114 V. abvirson, 1 D Austin, G hates, R J Green,

P.J. Martin.
Bowling (to date): Hamilton 6.1-1-23-1;
White 40-6-0; Hoggard 2-0-15-0.
Umpires: K.E. Paimer and R.A. White.

Cambridge Univ v Derbyshire FEMBER'S: Cambridge University, with four second-humps wickets standing, are 64 runs behind Derbyshire. Today: 11.0. Cambridge University won toss CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY - First Innings 195 'E T Smath 85'.

Overnight: 115 for 1) S Rollins cur out N Hayhurst Abar b P Jones

Bowling: P S Jones 27-3-76-1; How 11-1-43-0; Dawson 17-0-55-0; Freeth 22-1-101-4; House 5-1-14-0; R II Jones 14-3-39-1.

CAMBRIDGE UNIV - Second Immings
I Raticelge bw b DeFreitas
ET Smith b Dean
"A Singh b Malcolm ......" Fee: 1-39 2-44 3-59 4-74 5-74 6-74. To batt: PS Jones, JW O Freeth, EJ How, Sewling (to date): Malcolm 8-2-38-1; De-Freitas 8-4-21-2; Clarke 6-1-20-0; Dean 6-0-24-3; Vandrau 1-1-0-0.

Oxford Unity v Durhams
THE PARKS: Oxford University, with nine second-traings wickets standing, require 343 runs to best Durham. Today: 11.0. 

Fell (cont): 7-36 6-116 9-143.

Bowling: Brown 15-5-33-2; Betts 17.3-5-51-6; Kileen 7-1-20-1; Bolling 11-3-28-0; Cox 8-4-12-1 DURHAM - Second Innings I E Moms e Laughton b Mather N J Speak low b Patel N J Speak low b Patel
"I C Boon c Scrini b Mather
fM P Speak not out
M M Beits not out
Extras (w2 nb2)
Total (for 3 dec, 45 evers) Felt: 1-24 2-71 3-122

Did not be: J / 3 Lews, P 1. Collingwood. J Bolling, D M Cox, N Killeen, S J E Brown. Bourling: Averts 9-2-31-0: Panel 14-4-36-1: 1-8ymn 7-0-27-0: Mather 13-4-38-2: Light-foot 2-0-12-0. OXFORD UNIVERSITY -- Second Innings R D Hudson for b Prosen

Extras (B2). 2
Total (for 1, 4 overs) 2
Fall: 1-0.
To bet: 8 W Byrne, J J Bull, J A G Fukon.
"N E F Laugston, C Patel, †A P Scrini, J M M Averis, D P Mather. Bowling (to date): Brown 2-2-0-1; Betts 2-2-0-0.

# Wood brings colour to grey day Two-year Aamir ban' JON CULLEY

reports from Headingley Yorkshire 289 v Lancashire

The sun went in more or less as the players took the field here yesterday, which Yorkshire will hope is not an omen after last seasoo's ultimately unrewarded promise. In fact, the day's subsequent greyness was in keep-ing with the low key nature of the cricket in a fixture that illustrates bow attempts to manufacture a competitive at-

mosphere seldom work. Opening the season with a Roses friendly probably seemed a good idea at the time, when a good idea at the time, when right-hand batsman from Emley, with the captain, David Byas.

a change in the Championship programme limited the traditional rivals to one confrontation per year. But if Lancastrian and Yorkists ever craved a contest with nothing at stake there was little evidence yesterday, when spectators paying at the gate numbered 135.

It has the look of a second XI match, which cannot have helped. Many of the higger names are absent either because they are injured, engaged at Edgbaston or attending an England squad session. And mid-April, these days, is too early for overseas players to be involved.

An opportunity, then, for the understudies, among them

mere 0.03 per cent and Bigwood

must have lost at least that when

her horse became upset by the

clanking of a tractor and trail-

er at the end of the arena. This

was her first show in England on

Dance and Fly, who had won

nine Grands Prix in Germany

hut it is quite possible that she

will be selected for the senior

squad for this year's European Championships

At 20, Bigwood is still eligi-

before she acquired him.

who marked his first-class debut by scoring 81 before an inswinging delivery from Peter Martin had him Ibw shortly after lunch.

Wood, who has represented England at Under-17 and Under-19 level, is another product of the Yorkshire Academy. He earned his place after making a century oo the county's preseason tour of the West Indies.

With the former England opener Martyn Moson offering guidance after Mike Watkinson won the toss and chose to field, Wood looked comfortable from the outset. Moxon was bowled by Ian Austin, after which Wood survived a sharp chance to gully off Austin on 23 but domi-Matthew Wood, a 20-year-old nated a third-wicket stand of 77

The other opportunist was Bradley Parker, squeezed out by the Australian Michael Bevan, last season. Yorkshire expect to know today whether another Australian, Michael Slater, will replace Bevan this year. In the meantime, Parker caught the eye

with a forceful unbeaten 85. On an easy-paced pitch, Watkinson was the most pene-trative bowler before lunch, af-ter which no ooe did more damage than the off-spinner, Gary Yates, another who has to make do with meagre rations, largely because of Watkinson's versatility. Yates' four wickets included that of Gareth Batty - 19-year-old hrother of Jeremy - whose debut, in contrast to Woods', lasted one ball.

The Pakistan opener Aamir Sohail, who has played in 34 Tests, was banned from inmatches for two years by the Pakistan Cricket Board yester-

day.
The PCB disciplinary committee chairman, Talat Ali Malik, said Aamir was guilty of violating its code of conduct by levelling "baseless charges of match-fixing and betting" against some national team members.

"We gave him enough time to provide solid proof but he was not willing to co-operate,"
Malik added. Aamir described it as an "act of victimisation. It was expected. It is aimed to ruin my career. But I am not worried

in the next 60 days. Mark Taylor is set to retain

the Australian captaincy for ternational and domestic this summer's Ashes tuur, despite his continued poor form with the bat. He was told vesterday by the Australian Cricket Board that his position is safe. The rest of the Australian squad will be announced tuday.

Ashley Giles, Warwickshire's left-arm spinner, and the York-shire all-rounder Craig White have withdrawn from the England A versus The Rest game starting at Edghaston tonwrow. Giles suffered a recurrence of a knee injury and is replaced in the A side by Peter Such of Essex.
White has a shoulder injury and his place in the Rest is taken by at all." Aamir can appeal with- Ben Hollioake, younger hroth-

# A close call for Dr B

Equestrianism **GENEVIEVE MURPHY** reports from Ardingly

Dr Wilfreid Bechtolsheimer, who was second reserve for the British Olympic dressage team last year, gained a narrow Grand

Prix victory here yesterday on his new mount, Metternich. This was the third Grand Prix test that Dr B (as he is known) has ridden on the 12-year-old stallion whom he bought in Germany at the end of January. Though talented, he was lucky to defeat Fiona Bigwood and

Rugby League the chestnut Dance and Fly. The winning margin was a

DAVE HADFIELD The First Division leaders, Hull, have continued their teamstrengthening by signing Jason Laurence from Salford and

Paul Crook from Oldham. Laurence, an Australian fullback who has played for Nottingham. Huddersfield and York, hle for the Young Riders team, has been released by Salford following the club record signing of Gary Broadbent and has joined Hull on a free transfer.

Crook, a utility player who it could be two weeks before a made 13 Super League ap- new appointment is made.

## Hull's double dealing pearances for Oldham last sea-

son, cost £10,000. The former Hull loose forward Dean Busby has been transfer-listed by St Helens at sive run of results came to an £75,000. Busby was an £80,000 signing in August 1985, but has been hampered by injury over the past year.

John Joyner, who recently resigned as coach at Castleford, is being linked with the vacant job at Featherstone Rovers. David Ward stepped down as Featherstone coach at the weekend and the club say that

# Richardson's run ends

end in Tokyo yesterday when he was beaten in the second round of the Japan Open by Switzer-

land's Marc Rosset. The 23-year-old left-hander from Lincolnshire, who was forced to win two qualifying matches to enter the main draw, put up a brave fight against the former Olympic champion.

Richardson fought back after losing the first set on a tic-break.

a third-round place with a 7-6. 2-6, 6-2 victory.

Richardson, who was Great Britain's success in the Davis Cup defeat by Zimbahwe, reached his highest world ranking of 262 earlier this week, and could now go into the top 250.

The Wimbledon champion and No 1 seed, Richard Krajicek, heat South African Neville Godwin in straight sets. Rising Romanian player Irina Spirlea and former wingers. Brenda Schultz-McCarthy and Lori McNeil, head the early entries for the DFS Classic in hut it was Rosset who booked Birmingham from 9 to 15 June.

حكذا من الأصل gascoig! in the sl

argentin

Republic lea McGrath O

# Argentinian consolation for the Lions discards

CHRIS HEWETT

Rather like Barry John in his clusive heyday. England's finest will be travelling in two directions simultaneously this summer. Full-scale international commitments in South Africa and Argentina are certain to stretch England's enviable strength in depth to breaking point and give Jack Rowell

some idea of the precise balance between quality and quantity. If anything, England's two-

Test visit to Argentina will be is none too testing an exercise to even less of a tea party than the Lions' tour of South Africa, Perhaps it was just as well that, in stark contrast to the Lions' squad announcement a fortnight ago, there was oo sign of the Mad Hatter theory of selection when Rowell named his

squad at Twickenham yesterday. At least four of those bound for South America - Adedayo Adebayo, Mike Catt, Kyran Brackeo and Phil Greening should have been booked on the first flight to Johannesburg rather than Buenos Aires and it

find additional names for British rugby's misplaced persons file. Ben Clarke and Darren Garforth spring immediately to mind.

That, though, is a problem for the Lions, not England. Rowell's 29-strong party looks well capable of emulating their predecessors of 1990, who also travelled with 14 uncapped players, by claiming a share of the series.

who packs a motorway's worth of grit into an almost laughably Extreme pace out wide is at miniscule 5ft 9in frame, underlines Sale's emergence as a gena premium - what's oew? - but uine power in the land. The Adebayo, Jon Sleightholme and Pilkington Cup finalists supply a

ing opportunities.

The sudden promotion of

Rees, a 22-year-old Londoner

bright and bouncy quartet and will be whether the front row can should have contributed a fifth ishers. Given the running potential of Jim Mallinder and in Dave Baldwin, criminally un-Mark Mapletoft from full-back, fortunate to be denied one of the the degree of Test know-how at four second row places.

half-back and the serious clout The schedule includes demanding warm-up games with in evidence up froot, they can expect their fair share of scor-Cordoba, Buenos Aires and Argentina A, topped off with an "in-teresting" midweek examination from Cuyo in Mendoza between the Tests. "It's a big challenge," admitted the coach . "The Argentinians are very strong scrummaging is a way of life for them - and while I think we'll have a useful pack, the question

stand the pressure. In fact, Rowell holds a

stronger hand in that department than he acknowledged yesterday. If their performance for Bath against Leicester last weekend was anything to go by, Kevin Yates and John Mallett are wellequipped to ride roughshod across he length and breadth of the pampas. Garforth, the Tigers' tight-head, is no slouch either and thanks to the rapid development shown by Richard Cockerill, there will be a mean-

There are no sleepless nights to be endured on account of the locks, either. Martin Bayfield's recovery from a carcer-threatening pelvic injury should marantee line-out possession, and with Martin Haag back in his pomp at Bath, the engine room just might have a touch of the

Ford Cosworths about it. The weak link appears to be at open-side flanker, owing to the fact that this squad does not possess one. "We were looking forward to having Neil Back along on tour but he was abducted by the Lions," said Rowell with a

smile. He will be laughing on the other side of his face if breakaways like Rolando Martin abduct all the loose ball when the chips are down in Buenes Aires. Scotland, meanwhile, dropped

kilt-full of bombshells when they named a 30-strong party for the summer trip to South Africa and Zimbabwe, Andy Nicol, the Bath scrum-half, takes over the captaincy from the Lions-bound Roh Wainwright and the resulting squeeze on the No 9 shirt means there is no place for Bryan Redpath, a Five Nations

# Gascoigne stays in the shadows

Footbail

WYN GRIFFITHS

Paul Gascoigne's 20-minute cameo in Rangers' 6-0 demoli-tion of Raith Rovers on Tuesday night is unlikely to earn him a more prominent role for England when they face Georgia at

Wembley in two weeks' time. Unless the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, is prepared to gamble on the 29-year-old's fitness, Gascoigne will have to wait for the 31 May trip to Poland for a possible England return.

The Rangers midfielder's comehack at Stark's Park was

his first competitive game since 25 January and coincided with a victory that virtually ensures a ninth successive title for Walter Smith's side.

However, Dundee United's Scottish Cup commitment has denied Gascoigne the chance of a full game next week to try to show Hoddle he could have been ready for the World Cup qualifier on 30 April.

Rangers were scheduled to visit United next Wednesday but the match is postponed; with Dundee United meeting Kilmarnock in a Scottish Cup

# Republic leave McGrath out

ROB McLEAN

Paul McGrath's distinguished international career could finally he over after he was yesterday left out of the Republic of Ireland's squad for the vital Group Eight World Cup qualifying tie against Romania in Bucharest

T. TERUSES TO SEC if this is the end for the 37-year- in the hope of qualifying for a old Derby defender. McGrath third successive World Cup fiwon the last of his 83 caps in the nals. scorcless draw with Wales in Cardiff in February.

"I have spoken to Paul several times this week and he Iroland's European Under-21 agrees with the decision as he Championship qualifying tie is still suffering with injuries," McCarthy said.

"Paul can play in one game and miss the next one. In the ed Kennedy being elevated to long term he wants to elear up these injuries. The more games Paul misses, the less chance he has of playing," McCarthy said.

Earlier this month McGrath was withdrawn from the Irish squad in controversial circumstances just half an hour before the team flew to Skopje for the 3-2 defeat by Macedonia. An Achilles tendon injury was the official explanation.

The Sunderland striker Niall Quinn, just back from a cruciate ligament injury, was not named in the squad which will be reduced to 20 before travelling to Romania. But McCarthy has indicated that there could the a late call for Quinn if he shows full match fitness in forthcoming club games.

Meanwhile there is a first callup for the 17-year-old Everton defender Richard Dunne and recalls for Gary Kelly (Leeds), Curtis Fleming (Middles-brough), David Savage (Millwall) and David Connolly

(Watford) With both Jason McAteer (Liverpool) and Alan Mel oughlin (Portsmouth) serving suspensions, McCarthy has

\*AMBRICON LEAGUE: Dottos 2, Milliandes 1: Boston 7 Dalcard 2; Seettle 8 Claveland 4; Belliandes 1: Names City 7 Toronto 5: American 6 Nate York Vanhees 5; Teras 5 Chicago Witten Sox 2.

my retuit 30% 2.

MATIONIAL LEAGUE! Colorado 10 Chicogo Cuba
7: St. Louis 9 Florido 3: San Francisco 3.

Talcelehna 4: Petisburgh 3 San Diego 2: Adenta
TOricinom 0: Montral 7 Houston 5: New York
Toricinom 0: Montral 7 Houston 5: New York

Evric Gray, Olympiakos's American guard, has tested positive for the barned substance ephedrine and will

TODAY'S

NUMBER-

the shirt number of Jackie

Mobinson. To celebrate the

Baseball

recalled the 35-year-old Crystal Palace midfielder Ray Houghton. "It was an inept performance against Macedoma. Even a point against the Ro-mamans would be welcome,"

McCarthy added. With Romania top of the table after five games and five wins with 19 goals scored and none conceded, it promises to However, Mick McCarrhy, ... he are uphall task for the Irish to

> A one-match suspension rules out Liverpool's Mark Kennedy for the Republic of against Romania in Bucharest on 29 April.

But the ban has not preventthe senior squad for the following day's World Cup tie as sus-pension at Under-21 level does not apply to World Cup games. Ian Evans, the Under-21

manager, will also be without Tottenham's Stephen Carr because of suspension as the Irish youngsters attempt to build on their 4-0 victory over Macedonia earlier this mooth. The debutants in the squad are

Neale Forn (Tottenham), Owen Coll (Bournemouth), Peter Gain (Tottenham), Shaun Carey (Norwich) and Tony McDonnell of UCD, the only League of Ireland

UCD, the only League of Ireland representative.

REPUBLIC OF RELAND SQUAD (v Romania, Group Eight World Cup qualifying the in Bucharoet, 30 April; A Maly Sheaf Tuto, divers (Bitochurr), Irelan Doronty Cal, Heste Geets Urd, Fiscalag (bildriectocup), Macons (Blochurri), O Rolly (Lead Urd, Pearling (bildriectocup), Macons (Bestelburri), O Rolly (Lead Urd, Pearling Destroy), Dumme (Everton), Statution (Aston Ville), Houghton (Crystal Palaca), Macons (Membrall), Moore (Mediciariotough), Naturaly (Liverpool) Stally Sandersen), Goodman (Wirthedox), Cancustos (Marcy), Goodman (Wirthedox), Cancustos (Marcy).

(Norwen), Goodmier (Wimbledox), Gascantoo (Narcy).

167-1961. Of RELAND SQUAD by Romania in the European Under-21. Countel-authing qualifying the In Buchamet, 29 April; Hamby (Wimbledom), O'Coronor (Huddersfield), Worrell (Backburt), Quion (Dystal Palect), Haibar (Totartem), Flanass (Notte County), Beland (Coventry), Flanass (Notte County), Beland (Coventry), Flanas (Notte County), Beland (Coventry), Flanas (Notte County), Beland (Coventry), Mahbar (Trammere), Issue (Petersborough), Coli (Bournerouth), McDosnell (UCD), Belan (Totarthard, Cosey (Norweth).

probably miss Europe's Final Four championship next weak, if he is still positive in a second test, he faces a three-month ban by Floa, the sport's in-

NEA: Atlanta 109 New Jessey 101; Usah 127 Process 122: Houston 123 IA Cappers 119; Mil-values 92 Toronto 92; Seettle 108 Sen Anto-no 88.

Steve Robinson, the World Boxing Or-

susve roomson, me wone scorne urgenisation intercontinental featherweight champion, will defend his title
against 21-year-old Julio Sanchez Leon,
of Mexico, at Mansfield on 8 May. Robinson won his present title by beating
Tomas Santon in the first round at Brentwood in Mansh.

Laurent Jalabert, of France, yeste

won the Flèche Waltonne race, in Huy, Beiglum, for the second time in three

years, Jassem, who have an one speci-ish Once team, crossed the line 18 sec-onds ahead of Luc Labland, the former world champion. Alex Zülle, Jalabart's Swiss team-mate, adged out six other riders to take third place.

irs. Jalabert, who rides for the Spen-

5 May, against Motherwell, Gascoigne will have no time to regain match fitness following an ankle injury.

"I gave him a taste of playing again last night and he is eas-ing his way back," Smith said. "He still has a lot of training to do but he should be fit and ready for the Motherwell game."

Gascoigne bas missed 10 names for his club since injuring his ankle in a six-a-side tournament in Amsterdam at the end of January. He also sat out England's World Cup defeat by Italy and the Wembley frieodly win over Mexico last month.

If, as expected, he misses out on the Georgia game, Gas-coigne could play in the three final Premier Division matches for Rangers in May to prove his fitness for the trip to Poland.

Raith, meanwhile, who were relegated to the First Division of the Bell's Scottish League following Tuesday night's hum-bling, are believed to be the target of £250,000 takeover by their former manager, Jimmy Nicholl, who rejected an of-

fer from the chairman, Alex Penman, on Monday to become caretaker manager for the rest of the season, is expected to return in the summer as manager of the club he led to the Coca-Cola Cup in 1994 and the Uefa Cap. It is a bit early to Nicholl said yesterday.

Brian McClair admitted he was flattered at the crowd of almost 44,000 which turned up for his testimonial against Celtic at Old Trafford last night. "I had a bet with Brian Kidd

and it's cost me £30," said Mc-Clair, who is celebrating his 11thseason with United after joining from the Glasgow side in £850,000 in 1987.

"He said there would be more than 30,000, I said it would be less than that and I was certain I was on a banker. But it has been a tremendous night and I am very flattered so many people travelled such a long way to be there. When over 40,000 people turn up for you, I am touched beyond words. I am delighted. It was very emotional.

The manager capped the night when he told everyone that I am going to be there next season. I don't know in what role, though. Perhaps I'll get my chamois ready to wash all the CATE!

The crowd bettered previous testimonials against Celtic for Bryan Rohson, Mark Hughes and Lou Macari, and McClair said that is why he had the wager with Kidd be-cause he did not think he would get anywhere near the 40,000 mark.

tion and value for money."

Equestrianism

losses set by Baltimore Orioles. of the American League, in 1988. "I'm confident we're going to turn this around." Jim Rig-

gleman, the Cubs manager, said. Mark Thompson, the Colorado pitcher, raised his record to 3-0, despite allowing six runs and eight hits. He also added his first career homer - a solo shot in a three-run fifth inning that boosted Colorado's lead to 9-5.

Walker's second four-hit game of the season raised his hatting average to a leading 522. He also leads the majors with nine home runs and 22 RBL "This is certainly the best start I've ever had in my career." Walker said. em National League history

In New York. Armando Reynoso pitched five scoreless innings and Lance Johnsoo added four RBI as the Mets broke a four-game losing streak

dent Bill Clinton and Robinson's widow, Rachel, took part in a ceremooy at second base the position Rohinson played for most of his career. In an unprecedented move,

Bud Selig, the acting commissioner, announced that Robinsoo's uniform oumber. No 42, would be retired throughout the

In Atlanta, John Smoltz pitched a six-hitter for his 10th

V DOLUMBON (7.49).
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Furness v
Folkestone Inverse (6.0).
UNIBOND LEAGUE First Division: Ashton Utd.
V Gretne 17.45).

UREJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEARNE First Divi-pione Dalwood v Sagneen (7.45); Shoreham v Wick (7.45).

Speedway

FOOTBALL RESULTS Yesterday AVON RESURANCE COMBINATION First Divi-sion: Cardel 1 Arsenal 3; Charlton 3 Milliagel 3; Crystal Patace 1 Worlord 1; Sworeso 1 Southertopon 1. Leogue Cup semi-linel; West Harn 2 Tottenham 5.

with a 5-0 victory over the Los career shut-out, while Jeff out RBI single capped a four-

the second and Rvan Klesko

had a run-scoring triple in the

third and scored on an infield

hit by Chipper Jooes as the

Braves beat the Cincinnati Reds

struck out seveo as he out-

Kent Mercker to hand Atlanta

their fnorth consecutive wio,

their 10th victory in 11 games.

In Florida, Brady Raggio al-lowed two runs and five his

over 51/2 innings to win his ma-

jor league debut as the St Louis Cardinals moved to a 9-3 victory

over the Marlins, St Louis have

matches after starting the sea-

of hits with a homer and three

RBI and Marvin Benard's two-

Jeff Kent continued his run

son with six straight defeats.

Blauser tripled home a run in run sixth inning as the San

4-0. Smoltz walked two and run single for San Francisco.

now won of four of the last six returned from an eight-game

played his former team-mate three defeats.

Phillies.

TUESCRY
MATIONADE FOOTBALL LEAGUE First Divisions Bornsley 2 (Hendre 44, Manuelle 59) Outhern Dt Burnne, sum 0 Tritimeter Dt Oystall Palace 2 (Deer 6, 21) Stoke 0. Second Divisions Black-pool 0 Lutun Dt Birentford 1 (Asaba 23) Chester-leid Ot Bristol Cuty 2 (Barnerd peri 30, Boarne 88) Westham 1 (Morra 71); Bury 1 (Despon 4) Crease 0; Nors Coursy 2 (Hendroom og 66, Jones 56) Pyrnouth 1 (Colins 71); Woombre 5 (Canol peris 12, 29), McGavin 33, Solland 42, Read 82) Burnley 0. The Oheston: Cardiff O Scurtherpe 0; Hull Cay 1 (Derby 19) Obtinestin 2 (Adoock 21, Sale 26).

8211-3 SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Division:

(ACCOCA 21, Sale 26).

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Division:
Rath Rovers o Rangers 6 (Petro 10, Dune 21,
23, Robertson 28, Lauthup 56, McColet 83).
BEUN McCLAR TESTIMONIAL Manchester Utd
1 (Kenne), Cellic 2 (Ray 2).
PONTINS LEAGUE Pirst Division: Covenity O
Aston Vide 2.
ANDIN RESUMANIES

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First DIVI-Hom: Oxford Utd 2 Norwich 2.

storc Dobord Und 2 Norwich 2.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Ashford 2 Batdock 2: Crawley 2 Dorchester O:
Hashings 2 Salebury 3. Middland Division:
Branton 1 Corby 0: Reunds 0 Shepched Dynemo 0: Reddech 0 Handley Town 1: Torraworh
2 Bodwich Und 1. Southarn Division: Fixe 0
Mengate 5: Towknorige 1 Winney 2: Wester-super-Mare 2 Couedon 3. League Cup final first
leg: Burton Albon 2 Suthury Town 1.

USS LEAGUE Describes Divisions butter out Int leg: Burbon Abon 2 Sudbury Town 1.

OSS LEASUE Premier Divisions Aylesbury Utd
1 Hendon 2: Boretam Wood 1 Yeading 1: Duwich Hamlet O Surpon Utd 1: Cross Athleto: 1
States 2: Heyboridge Swifts O Enfeld O. Flest
Divisions Garbon Rovers O Wolongham O: Convey Istand 1 Bogron Regis 1: Toomig & Mischang
1 Thamps 3: Usbruige 1 Ballencay 2: Wordung 1
Abrogson Town O. Second Divisions Barring 1
Edgeare 1: Bedford Town 4 Ware 1: Stacknell
1 Barstead C. Colley Rov & Romford 2 Leadinghead 2: Horsham O Tabury 1: Wembley O

Withern O. Tritri Division: Epsom & Evell 4 Mingale & Frichley 7: Heritord O Northwood 1; Hornchurch O Asselvy 1; Southell 2 Claritor 2: UNIDOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Buston O Knowskey C: Frickey Atrache 2: Garnaborough Travy 2; Guesely O Marie 1: Lancater 1 Affection 0; Runcom 1 Bamber Bindge 2: Witton Albon 1 Winsford 3: First Division: Congeton 1 Curson Action 1: Geet Harmond 2 Farsley Cette 1 Seately 6: Description of the Congeton of Curson Action 1: Geet Harmond 2 Farsley Cette 1 Seately 6: Description of Curson Action 1: Geet Harmond 2 Farsley Cette 1 Seately 6: Description of Curson Action 1: Geet Harmond 2 Farsley Cette 1 1 Curson Astron 12 Great Harmond 2 Faster Cent 3: Redefine Borough 2 Achton Ust 0; Warmer, ton 1 Workington 1; Worksop 0 Lincoln Utd 1. WINSTORILEAD MERT LEAGUE First Division: Chestian 3 Deal 1: Home Bis 3 Thomestread 2: With 0 Whitstable 2: Slade Green 4 Cart-

8-4 win in Philadelphia over the

runs and J T Snow added a two-

who have nine victories against

The Pittsburgh Pirates stole

a 3-2 hrime victory over the San

Diego Padres when Sterling Hitchcock hit Tony Womack

with a pitch at the end of the

ninth inning to force home

Jose Guillen for the winning

suspension to pitch six strong in-

nings and Henry Rodriguez hit

a three-ruo homer to lead the

Montreal Expos to a 7-5 win

over the Astros.

In Houston, Pedro Martinez

Mark Lewis contributed two

OII

ty ith

at-

uly ith

UNIET \$4555EX COUNTY LEAGUE First Division: Haisham 0 Eastbourne Toen 3.
FEDERATION SHEWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: STOCKION 0 GUESDOTUGO 0; TOURNET CONSETT SHEWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE ALLIANGES. INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barnet 2 West Midlands Police 1; Biologist 2

Baruse 2 West Michards Police 1; Blakerall 2 Stratford 1; Chasetown 1 Witenhall 1; Poces-ter 1 Shifnel 0; Stapenhall 1 Blownch 1. NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Promis

SCREWITZ DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division

PENSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divisions Fittestowe 3 Haistoud 3: Lowestoft O Godeston 1: Normarket 1 Harsert & Paraceton 2: Wat-ton 0 Fakerham 0: Woodbridge 0 Bury Town 5. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Owl-sion: Nortesch Toen 2 Eastwood Harts; 2. Floodill Trophy semi-final second log: \au-nal GM O Newsestia Town 2 (age: 1-3). HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRELAND Pro-

SPANISH LEAGUE: Egremadura 1 (Juando por 22) Valença (). ACT VACCING V.

REPORT LEAGUE: Bastia 1 (Morarcia 25) Paris St-German 1 (Lolio 14).

GERMAN CUP Sonn-Basti: Energie Cottbus 3 (Morarcia 65), trigeng 58, Konecike 81) Kartsudie 0.



# Walker puts Cubs in record book

Angeles Dodgers. Toby Borland pitched the final four imnings for his first save as the Mets gained

their first shut-out of the season.

the fifth inning as baseball paid

tribute to Robinson. In the ma-

ior league park closest to the

former Ebbets Field, where

Rohinson led Brooklyn to six

pennants in 10 years, Presi-

The game was halted after

As the sport remembered Jackie Robinson on the 50th anniversary of the day he broke the major league colour barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers, the Chicago Cubs were trying to forget their own unfortunate entry in the record books on

Tuesday. Larry Walker was the inspiration for Colorado Rockies when he contributed two home runs and four RBI to lead his side to a 10-7 victory over Chicago, securing the Cubs' "It was a great night but it was place in history for the worst opening performance in mod-

never going to be about mon-ey," McClair said. "We tried to keep down the price as low as we could so people could come. Hopefully they had satisfac-

SPORTING DIGEST

Equestriansun
Prosider Learne Dressale (Archegy, Seseut: Gertre Rotal Grand Pric 1 Memoriah (Br W Bertrelainsuner) 63.33 per cont; 2 Denne end
Fy (F Bigword) 63.40; 3 Divideo (K Mephany 62.93, themselfales 1, Vistor (W Charmon) 63.55; 2 Messey (J Berdey) 63.33; 3 Fordel (S Webser) 63.21, intermedialne it: 1 Calendo (P Huttor) 63.42; 2 Jestisky (F Storn 63.03; 3 Arnestado (M Associato) 62.11. FOOTBORN
RA CARELING PREMISSISHE: He severaged Su-sures: Thur 24 Apr. Totestrom v Michiestrough. Wed 7 May: Lecteror v Shoffseld Wadnesday. Their 3 May: Electeror v Michiestrough. Man-chemer Uni v Newcastle. 2011'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Division: He severaged flotares: San 4 May: Abornian v Cette. Mon 5 May: Rengers v Moderand. Wed 7 May: Cotto v Rimamoric Dunde Uni v Panges.

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance 22pts £170,847.35, 21 £702.10, 20 £31.70, 18 £0.75, Red-time: 20pts £838.40, Four draws £155.70, 10 formes £1.65. Fag steeps £75.80. 1195.70. 10 homes £1.65. Pay shape £75.00.

ZETERRY: Trebbe Chancer: Zights £78.765.00.
22 £497.30. 21 £31.80. 20 £2.10. 4 brave £220.60. 8 Hennes und tree £46 £00.4 4 Annya £7.00. Super 7 £798.60. Lucky Notabers 37 9 27 3 2 1.

ERRITERS: Trebbe Chancer: 22pts £1.022.55.
22 £65.85; 21.£7.75. Four draws £41.05. Fare sates £5.15. Eight Homes £0.90.

VERMONS: Trebbe Chancer: 22pts £67.694.60.
21 £264.50, 26 £39.85. Super Shots £2.35 (paid on two copnex). Presider 10 £56.20.

PERMINY MINES.

CATALENT'A RIALLY (Licret de Max) Pinel positions (after 13 stember 17 hazkmen (Fini Miaubish div 8 min 48sec, 2 P. Leon (N. Subau4:09-60; 3 G. Penizo (Fi) Penigeut 4:1156; 4 C.
Marker (SSS Subaru 4:12-20; 5 A. Medegian (D.
Subaru 4:13-51; 6 R. Markers (Poy) Subaru
4:15:12; 7 J. Azzone (SD) Penigeut 4:13-12; 1 Azzone (SD) Penigeut 4:13-12; 7 J. Azzone (SD) Penigeut 4:13-12; 7 J. Azzone (SD) Penigeut 4:13-13; 1 D. C. Salze (Sp) Ford 4:13-14.

World drivers' championship standings (effor five counties: 1 Malaries 28,05; 2 Letti 20; 3 Com McReo 15; 4 Sanz 12; 5 A Schwer (Ger) Ford 11; 6 K Finison (Swe) Schwer 10; 7 a R Burns (EB) Metabert 6, Lots Ren Toyota 6; 9 a 1 Curcan (Ken) Toyota 6; Port 24; Paraga (Ken) Lots Ren Toyota 6; 9 a 1 Curcan (Ken) Toyota 6; Port 24, Manufecturess' championship standings: 1 Subort 42; 2 Missustan 30; 3 Fort 43.

with 11 consecutive defeats.

The Cubs are still 10 defeats

shy of the major league mark for

the worst start to a season of 21

Rugby League Bramley have signed the twins Anthony and David Gibbons from Leeds RNnos in a one-month toan deal. Halifax are negotiating with their Engrealization impossing from that the land international hopies, Paul Rowley, in the hopes of keeping him at Thum Hall. Rowley is the subject of rival but from Wiger and Warrington, but Hall-fax said yesterday that they wished to

Rugby Union

ENGLAND SQUAD (Tour of Argentina, 20 https:
8 Aurol: Beptics J Maillorder (Socie). M Maphetonic (Socie). A Adelbroyn (Berth.). J Sieghtholms (Bath.). O Roses (Sale). M Also Oktothernorm, J Bancentink (Socie). P to Elevative (Both.). cstil.
N Brocestock (Witspa). M Cost (Beth.). cstil.
N Brocestock (Witspa). M Cost (Beth.). A Niog (Witspa). Forwards: J Mailett (Beth.). A Niog (Witspa). Forwards: J Mailett (Beth.). K Yutes (Beth.). R Consessil (Witspa). Forwards: J Mailett (Beth.). K Opposition (Both.). B Carrier (Both.). B Carrier (Both.). B Carrier (Both.). B Carrier (Beth.). Towns: (Sale). N Hang (Beth.). B Carrier (Rocumenton.). However, P Orsening Mouseston.). B Carrier (Rocumenton.). M Carry (Bristol.). A Digmae (Seraceva). R Jandisc (Vertica). S Cipical (Beth.). E Shaesty (Waspel.). One player to be added.).
SCOTLAND SURJO. (Four of South Africa, Landishigh A O Mood (Beth., cstr.). S J Brotherstone (Metrosci.). B C Bulloch (West of Southon). Get Berns (Witspalen). S J Campbell (Metrosc). E M Chalmeto Relevant, S J Campbell (Metrosc). E M Chalmeto Relevant, D J Landishing, Cortist, C A John (Metrosch.). S D Holmes (London Scottist). C A John (Metrosch.). S D Holmes (London Scottist). K B John (Metrosci.). S Longistatir (Duriose High School FP). A J Linck-

ing (Curriet), C S Mathrer (Weistoners), M J M Mayer (Weisscrafter), C A Noursey (Haesch, S Mus-ray (Bestout), S A Nechol (Metrose), E W Peterse Bath), R J S Shopherd (Metrose), I R Smith Odecocy), S D Sarwart (Edricum) Academicals), M J Sarwart (Mathrey), P Weiston (Nechostals)

Table termis

Table termis
The England women's team beat Australia 4-2 m yesterday's semi-final and will face Singapore, the favountes, in today's final at the Commonwealth Championships in Glesgow. England's men are also through to today's final and will take on India.
Cohemonwealth championships (disagow) has Group it Northern India 4 Singapor II. Group it Section 4 South Africa 1; Wess 4 Mauntus 0. Women Hind chagic Wess 4 Souten 1. Seed-Indias: Figure 4 Australia 2 Englances in Common to 15 200 21 21-13 7-21. Lionas 5 Y b 21-10 21-11, A Hott is 1 Googh 21-14 21-10, Hott is 1 Googh 21-14 21-10, Hott and Lonas is 10 and Jhou 21-14 Singapore a Canado D. Playerists New Zeatend 4 Berbados 1; Scotland 4 South Africa 1.

FIXTURES

Football

Wck. (7.45).

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Botton v
Leepool (7.0). Piest Division: Leicester v Aston Wal (7.0). Second Division: Mansied v
Runley (7.0): Stockoort v Rotherham (6.45);
Grinsby v Manchester Cky (7.0). League Chp
serni-final: Stole v Walsali (7.0).

FA YOUTH CLP Serni-final second leg: Blockburn Rovers (1) v Crystal Palace (2).

ELITE LEASUE: Ipswick v Woherhampton (7.30). Other sports

PREMIER LEAGUE Knook-Out Cur: Shaffield v Benkisk (7.45).

The Embassy World Professional Championships will have record-breaking prize money of £166,000 next year, with the incentive of an extra £52,000 for any player achieving a nine-dart fin-ish. The tournament, the richest and most prestigious in the game, will again be held at the Lakeside County Cub in Francey Green from 3-11 January.

10th anniversary of the basehell player's breaking of the blour berier, the number has een retired from all major 2s can stay that way for the st of their careers, but no ew shirts will be issued with hat number.

rdson's

year A.



in tomorrow's independent County-by-county guide to the 1997 cricket season

sport

**Boon the enforcer** 

Derek Pringle meets the new Durham captain, page 30

# Gould survives as Wales manager

Football

JON BRODKIN

Bobby Gould was retained as the manager of Wales yesterday after the Football Association of Wales' management com-mittee accepted his opology for making alleged racist re-marks. Gould's future had been in doubt after the Bolton Wanderers and Wales striker, Nathan Blake, accused him of racism two weeks ago.
Gould, who has fiercely de-

nied any racist intent, weicomed the decision. "I have been cleared and 1 am delighted with that, but I knew in my own mind I had done nothing wrong," he said. "As far as I am concerned the matter is now closed and I am not going to say anything about it. All I want to do is get on with the job I am paid to do." The issue is likely to rumble

on, however, Blake has stated that he does not wish to play for Gould again, although he hinted vesterday that he may reverse that decisioo. "I doo't know whether I will change my mind and play for Wales again if selected, because I haveo't really thought about it yet," he said.

"I have spoken to my manager at Bolton, who says that I ought to play for my country, and I have spokeo to my ageot, who says that I should stand by my original decision."

Blake was particularly in-censed by Gould's remarks about the Nottingham Forest striker, Pierre van Hooijdonk, following Wales' home defeat to the Netherlands in October. Gould has admitted calling Van Hooijdonk "a black bastard", but insists oo offence was intended.

Blake has also cited a training ground incident before another World Cup qualifier, against Belgium, io which Gould told him be would "play for the blacks [black bibs]". Blake subsequently withdrew from the substitutes' bench rather than sit aloogside his manager during the game.

Gould's apology, rejected by Blake, appears to have been pivback him. In a written statement, the associatioo said it had taken into account a letter from Gordoo Taylor, the chief exec-

utive of the Professional Footballers' Association, expressing admiration for Gould's apology and explanation of events.

Officials from England and Germany will outline their arguments for hosting the 2006 World Cup to the executive committee of Uefa, the gov erning body of European foot-ball, in Geneva today. The meeting was called after complaints from the Football Association that senior figures in Uefa were already committed to support of an exclusive Eu-

ropean bid by the Germans.
"We will be asking Uefa if they are prepared to take a neutral position between our bid and Germany," Alec McGivan, the director of the FA's World Cup campaign, said. "If not, if they want to come out for one or the other, we want to know how they are going to do that, how they will achieve a democratic process that fairly assesses the merits of both bids.

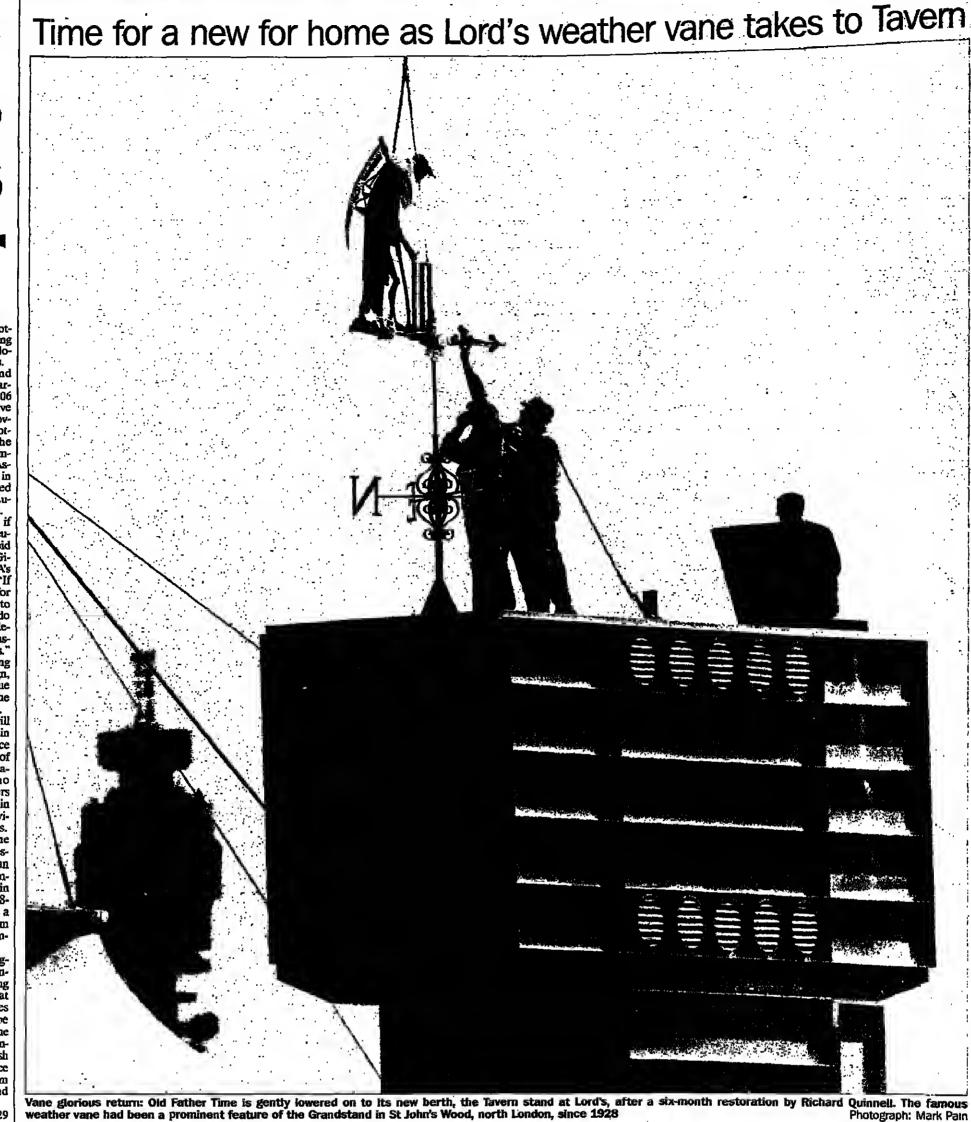
The FA, which is budgeting £8m to £10m for its campaign, has made it clear it will continue with its bid regardless of the

outcome of today's meeting.
The FA has also said it will support the Football League in its efforts to reinstate a place in Europe for the winners of the Coca-Cola Cup. Next seasoo Uefa Cup places will no longer be open to the winners of lesser cup competitions in countries where the top divisioo has more than 18 teams.

Chelsea look set to sign the Nigeria international Celestine Babayaro from the Belgian club Anderlecht. They are understood to have agreed in principle to purchase the 18year-old defender, who was a member of the Nigerian team which woo gold at last summer's Atlanta Olympics.

The Middlesbrough manager, Bryan Robson, has con-Des Walker, whose contract at Sheffield Wednesday expires this summer. Walker, 31, may be available on a free transfer if the Bosman ruling is extended to include transfers between English otal to the FAW's decision to clubs. Robsoo is likely to face competition from Nottingham Forest for the former England defender's signature.

More football, page 29



THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- I'm for having billion in bundle? Not likely (10) irregular rebates, of
- course (5.4) Game reserve (4) 10 In a short time meal must follow (6)
- 11 Animal's bound, attached to stake (8) 13 Unit's at fault, leading to
- burst (6) 14 Appeal in band strikes the Parisian as slight (8)
- 17 Probes with bugs quietly concealed (8)
  19 Points to cultivate, it's said, in conduct (6)
- 21 Bridge players inclined to get joined up (8) 23 Fluid, fourth of butane,
- feeding guttering lamps
- 25 Obscure English coin (4) Expert with hammer securing curling ornate pat-27 Rise before commotion
- One figure skirting river and canal (9) Gnaw at stalk (4) Faults of receivers (8)
- Broad taste, but eschewing seconds (5) Yobbo's nicked ring and fine watch (7)
- Does it ensure a high turnover? (10) Decoy's trapped State law-

I6 Jack's runny nose (δ)I8 One recruited by joining

12 Level, University, in match 20 Boss, if yielding, has to hardeo (6) at last (10)

15 Wound up by crack in bar, 22 Bank, quiet little one (5)
24 Man I almost twist? (4)

play-off time. Fans of the Detroit Red Wings caught bringing dead octopuses

# Johnson eager to make second comeback

**Athletics** 

The disgraced former 100 metres world record holder Ben Johnson wants to make another comeback. Johnson is training near Ottawa and wants to

challenge the Olympic champion, his fellow Canadian Dono-van Bailey, if the International Amateur Athletic Federation agrees to lift his lifetime ban. "The only thing I don't have is the race edge," the 35-year-old Johnson said. "The speed and endurance are there, but the mind isn't there 100 per

cent. It won't take long." "It's 100 per cent that this man is back," Morris Chrobotek, Johnson's manager and agent said. "He has served his time for an alleged second offence. He's cially become the 100m world-record holder this week. Usually

Athletics Canada, the sport's governing federation in the country, and Chrobotek agreed on Tuesday to send the IAAF Council a letter asking it to reconsid-er Johnson's ban at its meeting on 29-30 May. The letter says the ban prevents Johnson, who still considers himself a full-time ath-

lete, from earning a living.

Johnson tested positive for
Stanozolol in 1988 and was suspended for two years after winning the Olympic 100m title at Seoul in a world record 9.79sec. In January 1993, he was suspended for life after a second positive test for steroids. Johnson said he is scheduled

to run at meetings on 1 June in Bratislava and 5 June in Rome, assuming the IAAF lifts the ban. Meanwhile Bailey will offi-

world records are ratified within a few weeks, but all the records from last summer's Olympics, including Bailey's 9.84 in the 100m and Michael Johnson's 19.32 for the 200m, have yet to be ratified by the IAAF.

The IAAF general secretary, Istvan Gyulai, blames USA Irack and Field, the American governing body, for the delay, and brushed aside reports that ratification was being withheld because of a lab error in Atlanta.

A few months ago, it was revealed that five to seven positive drug tests from the Atlanta Games were disregarded because the contract with the testing lab had expired before the Games ended. "It has nothing to do with that," Gyulai said. He blamed the problem in delays in obtaining the proper paperwork from USA Track and Field.

# **Detroit ban for dead octopuses**

ice hockey

ANDREW MARTIN

What has 10 legs, Red Wings and is banned from the Detroit home of one of the National Hockey League finest? Here's a hint: the answer concerns one of the more bizarre American sporting traditions come

into the Joe Louis Arena - or,

worse, chucking them on to the rink - are to be thrown out. The practice of lobbing the

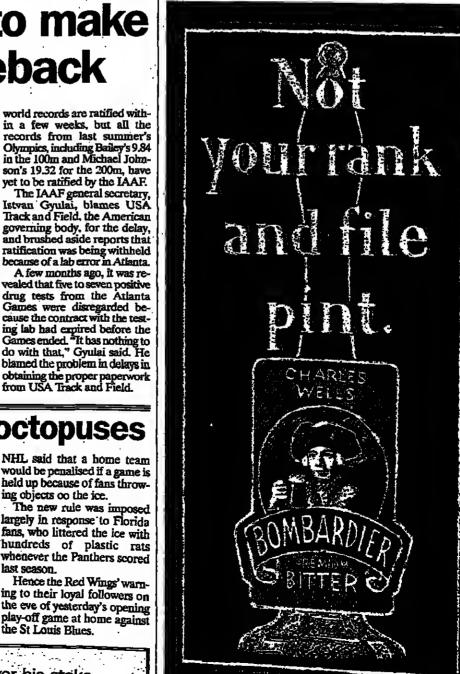
eight-legged creatures on to the ice has been a play-off ritual for Red Wings fans since 1952. That is when the first octopus was tossed at the defunct Olympia Stadium, each arm representing the number of victories needed to win the Stanley Cup. It now takes 16 victories to win the outsized trophy, but the tradition has continued.

would be penalised if a game is held up because of fans throwing objects on the ice. The new rule was imposed largely in response to Florida

fans, who littered the ice with hundreds of plastic rats whenever the Panthers scored last season Hence the Red Wings' warning to their loyal followers on the eve of yesterday's opening

Bernie Ecclestone challenged over his stake in Formula One - Page 22

In September, however, the



BREWED BY THE CHARLES WELLS FAMILY BREWERY, BEDFORDSHIRE. EST. 1976

